

Topics in Applied Microeconomics – EC991

Lecturer:

Fabian Waldinger

Office Hour: Tuesdays 11 - 12 in S. 2.92

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Lecture Handouts:

Are available on my personal webpage:

<http://www.fabianwaldinger.com/#!topics-in-applied-microeconomics/en1ow>

Assessment:

- 1) Two written referee reports on selected journal articles, to be completed by Weeks 6 and 10 (each worth 15%).
- 2) Written examination in May (worth 70%).

Readings:

Readings are mainly from journal articles. In addition to that the following books are a useful reference for some of the topics covered:

Handbooks in Economics – Economics of Innovation (2010), vol. 1, eds. Brownwyn Hall and Nathan Rosenberg, Elsevier.

Angrist and Pischke (2009) *Mostly Harmless Econometrics*, Princeton University Press, Princeton and Oxford.

References:

Required readings are essential readings that everybody should read. Additional readings are for further reference and for learning more on a particular topic. Additional readings will not be examined.

Intellectual Property Rights

Main Readings

Moser, Petra, “How Do Patent Laws Influence Innovation? Evidence from Nineteenth-Century World Fairs,” *American Economic Review*, 95, No. 4 (September 2005), 1214-1236.

Budish, Eric, Benjamin Roin, Heidi Williams (2015) Do Firms Underinvest in Long-Term Research? Evidence from Cancer Clinical Trials, *American Economic Review* 105(7): 2044-2085.

Williams, Heidi (2013) Intellectual Property Rights and Innovation: Evidence from the Human Genome, *Journal of Political Economy* 121(1): 1-27.

Additional Readings

Acemoglu, Daron (2008) *Introduction to Modern Economic Growth*, Princeton University Press.

Diffusion of Ideas and Localized Knowledge Spillovers

Main Readings:

Ellison, Glenn, Edward L. Glaeser, and William R. Kerr (2010) "What Causes Industry Agglomeration? Evidence from Coagglomeration Patterns", *American Economic Review*, vol. 100,(June), pp. 1195–1213.

Greenstone Michael, Richard Hornbeck, and Enrico Moretti (2010) "Identifying Agglomeration Spillovers: Evidence from Winners and Losers of Large Plant Openings", *Journal of Political Economy*, vol. 118, no. 3.

Bloom, Nicholas, Mark Schankerman, and John Van Reenen (2013) "Identifying technology spillovers and product market rivalry", *Econometrica*, vol. 81, pp. 1347-1393.

Jaffe, Adam B, Manuel Trajtenberg, and Rebecca Henderson (1992) „Geographic Localization of Knowledge Spillovers as Evidenced by Patent Citations”, *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, vol. 108, no. 3, pp. 577-598

Kerr, William R., and William F. Lincoln, "The Supply Side of Innovation: H-1B Visa Reforms and U.S. Ethnic Invention," *Journal of Labor Economics*, 28, No. 3 (2010), 473-508.

Thompson, Peter and Melanie Fox-Kean (2005) "Patent Citations and the Geography of Knowledge Spillovers: A Reassessment ", *American Economic Review*, vol. 95, no. 1, pp. 450-460

Henderson, Rebecca, Adam Jaffe and Manuel Trajtenberg "Patent Citations and the Geography of Knowledge Spillovers: A Reassessment: Comment", *American Economic Review*, vol. 95, no. 1, pp. 461-464

Peer Effects

Main Readings:

Mas, Alexandre and Enrico Moretti (2009) "Peers at Work", *The American Economic Review*, vol. 99, no. 1.

Bandiera, Oriana, Iwan Barankay, Imran Rasul (2010) "Social Incentives in the Work-place", *The Review of Economic Studies*, vol. 77, no. 2.

Waldinger, Fabian (2012) "Peer Effects in Science: Evidence from the Dismissal of Scientists in Nazi Germany", *Review of Economic Studies*, vol. 79, no. 2, pp. 838-861.

Cornelissen, Thomas, Christian Dustmann, and Uta Schoenberg (2015) "Peer Effects in the Workplace", mimeo UCL

High-Skilled Migration

Main Readings:

Borjas, G. and K. Doran (2012) "The Collapse of the Soviet Union and the Productivity of American Mathematicians", *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, vol. pp. 1143-1203.

Moser, P., A. Voena and F. Waldinger (2014) "German Jewish Émigrés and U.S. Invention", *American Economic Review*

Kerr, William R., and William F. Lincoln “The Supply Side of Innovation: H-1B Visa Reforms and U.S. Ethnic Invention,” *Journal of Labor Economics*, 28, No. 3 (2010), 473-508.

Additional Readings:

Doran, Kirk and Alexander Gelber “The Effects of High-Skill Immigration on Firms: Evidence from H-1B Visa Lotteries”, mimeo Berkeley and Notre Dame.

Very nice paper using H-1B lotteries to investigate the effect of H-1Bs on firms.