

## Basics of the supervision of final theses

Date: March 2024

1. In general, the chair for Economic Policy and Constitutional Economics (Prof. Feld) supervises theses on the following topics:
  - Economic Policy (e.g. Competition, Monetary Policy, Minimum Wage/ Labor Market Policy)
  - Fiscal Policy (e.g. Fiscal Rules, Public Debt, Tax Competition, Tax Evasion, Undeclared Work)
  - New Political Economy (e.g. Elections, Interest Groups, Bureaucracy, Common Pool Problem, Logrolling)
  - Behavioral Economics (e.g. behavioral determinants of tax compliance, nudging)
  - History of Economic Thought in connection with the Freiburg School
2. There are four application deadlines per year (01.03., 01.06., 01.09., 01.12.)
3. Theses can be written in English or in German.
4. Depending on the topic of your thesis, it can be advantageous if you have attended a lecture/ seminar of our chair. However, this is not a strict requirement.
5. Bachelor theses are generally written as literature reviews. This means that the existing scientific literature is structured and discussed with regard to a concrete research question.
6. Master theses can be written as literature reviews. However, we encourage you to develop a master thesis that applies a theoretical concept to a case study or empirical data. Moreover, we are happy to assist you in designing a (experimental) survey yourself.
7. The chair does not assign research questions, because finding a topic is also part of the process. You are welcome to come to the consultation with ideas (a finished outline is not necessary!).
8. Students often prefer to write about current topics, such as the trade conflict between the US and China. However, there is little scientific literature on current issues that can be evaluated. Therefore, thoroughly check whether there is enough scientific literature or focus on a more general question.