The Economics of the Climate

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Outline

The objective of this seminar is to discuss recent theoretical and empirical work on on the Economics of the Climate. We will analyze and discuss important questions in this field including, but not limited to, the following ones: What is the interaction between economic growth and climate change? What are the dynamic effects over time and across space? What is the appropriate policy response? And what are the technological and organizational obstacles facing the successful adoption of climate policies? A general introduction to these topics can be found here:

- Stern (2008)

Assessment

Participants choose a paper from the list of topics. They are required to present the paper in class (45-minute presentation) and to write a seminar paper (15-20 pages, font size 12 pt and line spacing 1.5). Participants should provide a summary and critical evaluation of the paper, a comparison with the related literature and, where relevant, an assessment on the basis of pertinent empirical data. Seminar presentations and the paper are in English. Grading is based on the presentation (40 %) and the seminar paper (60 %).

Organizational Details

Students have to sign up for this seminar during the period January 19 - January 25, 2021. Students who have received a slot in the seminar should send a list of at least 5 papers ranked by their preferences to stefan.niemann@uni-konstanz.de. Topics are allocated on a ‘first come, first served’ basis.

The seminar will be held as a block seminar on July 02 and 03, 2021 (compulsory attendance, room TBA). We will first meet on April 20, 2021 to discuss details (compulsory attendance, format TBA). Participants have to hand in their seminar paper by August 16, 2021 (or earlier) as electronic file + printed copy.
Topics

1. Integrated assessment models
   (a) Pindyck (2013)
   (b) Hassler and Krussell (2012)
   (c) Heal (2017)

2. Temperature, weather and economic growth
   (a) Dell et al. (2012)
   (b) Dell et al. (2014)

3. Spatial implications
   (a) Desmet and Rossi-Hansberg (2015)

4. Sustainability of international agreements
   (a) Barrett (1994)
   (b) Nordhaus (2015)

5. Strategic technology choice and delayed negotiations
   (a) Buchholz and Konrad (1994)
   (b) Beccherle and Tirole (2011)

6. Dynamic climate contracts
   (a) Harstad (2012)
   (b) Harstad (2016)

7. Global refunding schemes
   (a) Gersbach and Winkler (2012)
   (b) Gersbach et al. (2017)

8. Climate policy
   (a) Aldy et al. (2010)
   (b) Hoel (1994)
   (c) Hassler et al. (2016)

9. Uncertainty
   (a) Hassler et al. (2018)

10. Technical change
11. Fiscal costs

(a) Aćemoglu et al. (2012)

(b) Hassler et al. (2019)

(a) Barrage (2020)

(b) IMF (2008)
References


