Universität Kassel  
Institut für Volkswirtschaftslehre  
Fachgebiet Allgemeine Wirtschaftspolitik  
Vorlesung / Seminar (MA):  
Economics of Entrepreneurship  
Wintersemester 2011/2012

Zeit: Montag, 14.15.-15.45 Uhr und Dienstag, 10.15-11.45 Uhr (Beginn: 24.10.2011)  
Ort (Montag): Raum 0212 (Noral-Platiel-Str. 6)  
Ort (Dienstag): Raum 0402 (Arnold-Bode-Str. 2)  
Themenvergabe in der Vorlesung / Topics for seminar allocated in lecture

Lecturer: Dr. Stefan Krabel

Objectives:
This course has two objectives. First, it provides an introduction into the economics of entrepreneurship. Second, and equally important, it is an opportunity to practice the active use of English!

Entrepreneurship is a major driving force in dynamic economies. New businesses are an important target of policy makers worldwide. At the same time a sizeable scholarly literature on entrepreneurship has recently emerged in economics and related fields such as management, psychology and geography. The course in Economics of Entrepreneurship (EE) provides an introduction to the essential economic theories and empirical studies analyzing the phenomenon of entrepreneurship. The course agenda covers a broad range of topics including new venture creation, business performance, the economic relevance of entrepreneurship and entrepreneurship policies.

To enhance participants’ skills and confidence in using English as a scholarly communication tool, all lectures and presentations will be in English. Each participant will give a presentation on a seminal paper in the entrepreneurship literature. Substantial amounts of time will be allocated to classroom discussion. In addition, each participant will write a 12-page essay in English. It is moreover planned to have guest presentations by non-German-speaking visitors. The course material intentionally cuts across disciplinary boundaries. It comprises elements of economic, management and psychology research related to entrepreneurship. In this way, participants study current issues from different perspectives, also gaining diverse methodological insights. Upon completing the course, participants will be able to understand and critically reflect the broad scope of entrepreneurial processes, to evaluate and classify entrepreneurship policies and to assess the potential influence of entrepreneurship on economic growth.
**Organization:**
The course will be held twice a week. Lectures will be given on Mondays, while the Tuesday sessions are reserved for student presentations and classroom discussion. The lectures will introduce students to the state of the art of entrepreneurship research. The agenda of the lectures is outlined below.

**Agenda (lecture part):**

**Introduction**

**Lecture Part A: Basic concepts**
- Theories of entrepreneurship
- Empirical methods in entrepreneurship

**Lecture Part B: Determinants of entrepreneurship**
- The Role of Human and Social Capital
- Entrepreneurial traits
- Immigration, culture, and entrepreneurship

**Lecture Part C: Firm formation**
- Firm financing
- Venture creation

**Lecture Part D: Firm performance**
- Firm survival
- Firm growth

**Lecture Part E: Entrepreneurship and Economic Growth**
- Location choices of new ventures
- Regional economic benefits of entrepreneurship
- Theories of Entrepreneurial regimes
- (Regional) Entrepreneurship policy

**Lecture Part F: Academic Entrepreneurship**
- The relevance of innovation
- Academic entrepreneurship in the context of technology transfer

**Requirements for participation:**
There are no specific requirements for participation. Prior completion of basic courses in microeconomics, mathematics/statistics and economic policy is helpful (but not mandatory). As the course is taught in English, good command of the English language and willingness to communicate in English are required.

**Credits:**
Requirements in order to obtain 6 credits for the course:
- A 30-minute presentation of a research paper on entrepreneurship (in English).
- A term paper (in English) of ca. 12 pages (1.5 line spacing, standard font size, one inch margins) based on the oral presentation. This paper should summarize the contents and methods of the discussed research paper and discuss it in the context of the relevant scholarly literature (due March 31st, 2012).
- Attendance of all student presentations (attendance is mandatory for the Wednesday sessions)
- Active participation in the classroom discussion

Please note that plagiarism will not be tolerated!!
Introductory reading:


List of papers for seminar presentations: