1. Seminar / Bachelor / Master Thesis Suggested Topics

1. City Formation

2. Neighborhood Effects on Housing Prices

3. Search and Housing Prices

4. Agglomeration and Macroeconomics

5. Encouraging homeownership via Tax

6. Urban Housing Supply

7. Interest Rate and Household Mobility

8. Housing prices and Collateral Constraints


9. Housing Transaction and Economic Cycles


10. Housing Tax and Housing Ownership


11. Household Mobility and Housing Markets


12. Housing Price Vs Rent: I


13. Housing Price Vs Rent: II


14. Housing Price Vs Rent: III


15. Housing Price Vs Rent: IV

• Sommer, Kamila, Paul Sullivan and Randal Verbrugge, (2010), "Run-up in the House Price-Rent Ratio: How much Can be Explained by Fundamentals?", manuscript.
16. Housing Price and Money Illusion

17. Real Estate Portfolio Choice and Return Characteristics
   • Pelizzon, Loriana and G. Weber, 2005 "Efficient Portfolios when Housing is a Hedge against Rent Risk, by , Universitïy of Foscari di Venezia working paper.

18. Real Estate Ownership as a Portfolio Choice: I

19. Real Estate Ownership as a Portfolio Choice: II

20. Asset Correlation and Commercial Real Estate Loans

21. Housing Wealth and Consumption

22. Land Prices: I

23. Land Prices: II

24. Business and Housing Cycles: I

25. Business and Housing Cycles: II

26. Business and Housing Cycles: III


27. Business and Housing Cycles: IV


28. Business and Housing Cycles V: Bank Lending, Financial Accelerator and Real Estate Prices


29. Productivity and House Prices I


30. Housing Cycles with Constraints

• Garriga, Carlos, Robert F. Martin, and Don Schlagenhauf, 2010, "Housing Boom and Bust Cycles", working paper, St. Louis Federal Reserve.

31. Business Cycles and House Prices II


32. Real Options and Land Value


33. Real Estate: Portfolio Choice and Return Characteristics I


34. REITs and Returns

35. Real Estate Asset Predictability


36. Asset Allocation with Welfare Analysis


37. Demography and Homeownership

• "Why Has Home Ownership Fallen Among the Young?" by Jonas D.M. Fisher and Martin Gervais (manuscript at University of Southampton), March 2009

38. Monetary Union and Housing Market

• Margarita Rubio, "Housing Market Heterogeneity in a Monetary Union", Bank of Spain (manuscript), March 2009

39. Subprime mortgages I


40. Subprime mortgages II


41. Subprime mortgages III


42. Subprime mortgages IV
43. Housing Search and Housing Price Appreciation


44. Financial Accelerator and Housing Prices I


45. Interest Rates and Housing Prices


46. Housing Supply Constraint and Housing Prices


47. Financial and Housing Cycles


48. Housing and Labor Mobility


49. Foreclosures House Prices and the Real Economy


50. Housing Bust and Mobility


51. Mortagage and Home Ownership

52. House Prices and Babies


53. Agglomeration and Firm Location Choice


54. Thinness of Real Estate Markets


55. Benefits of Homeownership


56. Zipf’s Law


57. Segregation and Formation of Ghettos


58. Demographics and property values


59. Inequalities in Cities

60. Urban Landscape

61. Cities and Crime

62. Land value and housing externalities

63. City size and welfare

64. Housing and Business Cycle

2. Some Remarks
   • In regards to the Seminar / Bachelorarbeit / Master Thesis Topics, the list of topics is **ONLY a suggestion**: Students can choose their own choice of topic as well. **As long as your suggested topic is interesting and doable, I'm more than open for suggestions!**
     - For a Bachelor Seminar Paper, I do **NOT** expect the quality to be on the **SAME LEVEL** as a Master Seminar paper, **EVEN if** the topic is same!

   • For those of you who are thinking of writing their Bachelorarbeit or Masterarbeit with me, I strongly suggest that you take one of the literature seminars AND take the same topic for your seminar and Bachelorarbeit/Masterarbeit:
     - **As of WS 09/10, I ONLY take students who participate in my literature seminars:** exception is when students are on an exchange program at other partner universities OR some other "urgent" ground such as a medical problem.
– If you take this route: i.e. seminar and then Bachelor/Master Thesis then I expect about 20-30% more on, say, Bachelorarbeit/Masterarbeit than the Seminar paper.

2.1. Some other notes on Seminar / Bachelorarbeit / Master Thesis:

• Language Choice: German or English
  – As in all my classes, students can either chose German or English to write.

• The length of Seminar / Bachelorarbeit / Master Thesis:
  – For Seminar: Maximum 20 pages including tables, figures, etc.
  – For Bachelors: I don’t expect more than 35 pages including tables, figures, etc.
  – For Master Thesis: Maximum 50 pages including tables, figures, etc.

• Mathematical Knowledge:
  – All the references that I have on the topic list are relatively mathematically and econometrically based.
  – Although I don’t expect students to fully replicate the mathematical results, I do expect students to understand the foundation and intuitions behind these mathematical models. In other words, one needs to clearly explain in words the ideas and the results.

• To obtain a grade above 1.3 on Seminar, I expect an excellent literature summary, some empirical replication (or support) of the chosen topic, and a clear presentation.

• For the grading of Bachelor / Master thesis, DO NOT automatically expect to obtain a good grade JUST because you had a good grade in seminar paper! That is, the level of grading will be different for the Bachelor / Master thesis than seminar paper!!!!