GSERM – St. Gallen 2023: Analyzing Panel Data

Examination Details

June 16, 2023

This document outlines logistical matters about the examination for the Summer 2023 instance of GSERM's *Analyzing Panel Data* course. In no particular order:

1. The exam and all data necessary to complete it will be made available on the course Github repository at approximately 12:00 CET on Friday, June 16, 2023.

2. Class members will have two options for completing the examination:

   - Participants selecting the "in-class" exam option will submit their exam answers by 18:00 CET on Friday, June 16, 2023.
   - Participants selecting the "take-home" exam option will submit their exam answers by 18:00 CET on Friday, June 23, 2023.

   The exam itself will be identical for both "in-class" and "take home" options. Students need not inform the instructor of their choice; all exam answers received at or before 17:00 CET on June 16 will be treated as "in-class" answers, and those received after that day and time will be treated as "take-home" answers.

3. The examination will have multiple questions; respondents will be instructed to choose a subset of those questions and answer only the ones they choose.

4. The questions on the examination will be "practical," in the sense that they will involve using the tools and techniques covered in the class to answer questions using panel / time-series cross-sectional data.

5. Each exam answer should take the form of a brief empirical analysis of the data provided that answers the question(s) asked. That may include plots, tables, and any other techniques you think will be useful in answering the question. Each answer may be as short or long as you feel is appropriate, given the constraints of time. Answers will be evaluated on the basis of (a) correct application and discussion of the methods discussed in class; (b) justification of the analytic choices made; and (c) presentation and discussion of findings. *In creating your answers, you should not use data outside of that provided in the dataset.* You will *not* be evaluated on your substantive knowledge of the topic(s) at hand.

6. The exam is worth 700 possible points (70 percent of the course grade).

7. Participants will submit their exam answers to the instructor electronically, *as a PDF file*, by e-mailing it to `zorn@psu.edu`. You should also include all code necessary to replicate the analyses you conduct; this may take the form of an appendix, a separate `.R` file, or a `.Rmd` file for the entire exam answer.

If you have any questions about the examination, please email the instructor at `zorn@psu.edu`.