## Empirical Banking September 15-17, 2025 Course Syllabus

Graduate School of Finance

Aalto University

School of Business

#### Lecturer

Prof. Dr. Steven Ongena (*University of Zurich*, *Swiss Finance Institute*, *KU Leuven*, *NTNU Business School* and *CEPR*)

### **Overview and Objectives**

This course is to introduce the student to scientific literature dealing with the economics and econometrics of banking, both theoretical and empirical. While the focus is squarely on the econometric methods, their anchoring is solidly in theory.

#### Room

Graduate School of Finance, Aalto University, Helsinki

#### **Course Outline**

#### Textbooks:

Freixas, X., and J. C. Rochet, 2023, Microeconomics of Banking (MIT Press). Degryse, H., M. Kim, and S. Ongena, 2009, Microeconometrics of Banking (Oxford University Press).

1	Sept 15, Monday	12:00- 14:00	<ul> <li>Difference-in-Differences</li> <li>Degryse, Kim, and Ongena, Chapter 4</li> <li>Cerqueiro, G., Ongena, S., K. Roszbach, 2016. Collateralization, bank loan rates and monitoring: Evidence from a natural experiment, Journal of Finance, 71, 1295-1322.</li> </ul>
2	Sept 16, Tuesday	10:00- 12:00	<ul> <li>Duration Analysis and Applications (Ongena)</li> <li>Degryse, Kim, and Ongena, Chapter 4</li> <li><u>Kiefer, N.M.</u>, 1988, Economic duration data and hazard functions, Journal of Economic Literature 26, 646-679.</li> <li><u>Ongena S. and D.C. Smith</u>, 2001, The duration of bank relationships, Journal of Financial Economics 61, 449-475.</li> </ul>

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4	Sept 16, Tuesday	13:00- 16:00	<ul> <li>Event Studies and Applications (Ongena)</li> <li>Degryse, Kim, and Ongena, Chapter 2</li> <li>James, C.M., 1987. Some evidence on the uniqueness of bank loans. Journal of Financial Economics 19, 217-235.</li> <li>McWilliams, A. and D. Siegel, 1997, Event studies in empirical research: Theoretical and empirical issues, Academy of Management Journal 40, 626-657.</li> <li>Ongena S., D.C. Smith and D. Michalsen, 2003, Firms and their distressed banks: lessons from the Norwegian banking crisis (1988-1991), Journal of Financial Economics 67:1, 81-112.</li> <li>Karceski J., S. Ongena and D.C. Smith, 2005, The impact of bank consolidation on commercial borrower welfare, Journal of Finance, 60:4, 2043-2082.</li> <li>Binder, J.J., 1985. Measuring the effects of regulation with stock price data. RAND Journal of Economics 16, 167-183.</li> <li>Carletti, E., Hartmann, P., Ongena, S., 2015. The economic impact of merger control legislation. International Review of Law and Economics, 42, 88-104.</li> </ul>
5	Sept 17, Wednesday	10:00- 12:00	<ul> <li>Matching (Ongena)</li> <li>Degryse, Kim, and Ongena, Chapter 4</li> <li>Stuart, E.A., 2010. Matching methods for causal inference: A review and a look forward. Statistical Science, 25:1, 1-21.</li> <li>loannidou, V. P., and S. Ongena, 2010, "Time for a change": Loan conditions and bank behavior when firms switch banks, Journal of Finance 65, 1847-1878.</li> <li>Caliendo, M., Kopeinig, S., 2008. Some practical guidance for the implementation of propensity score matching. Journal of Economic Surveys 22, 31-72.</li> <li>Giannetti, M., Ongena, S., 2012. 'Lending by example': Direct and indirect effects of foreign bank presence in emerging markets. Journal of International Economics 86, 167-180.</li> </ul>
6	Sept 17,	13:00-	Heteroskedastic Modelling (Ongena)
	Wednesday	1600	Degryse, Kim, and Ongena, Chapter 4

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			<ul> <li><u>Cerqueiro, G., H. Degryse, and S. Ongena</u>, 2011, Rules versus discretion in loan rate setting," Journal of Financial Intermediation 20, 503-529.</li> </ul>
7	Sept 17,	13:00-	Instrumental Variables
	Wednesday	1600	Degryse, Kim, and Ongena, Chapter 4
			<ul> <li>Braggion F., M. Dwarkasing and S. Ongena, 2021, Household inequality, entrepreneurial dynamism and corporate financing, Review of Financial Studies, 34 (5), 2448-2507.</li> </ul>
8	Sept 17,	13:00-	Matching Sample Strategies
	Wednesday	1600	Degryse, Kim, and Ongena, Chapter 4
			<ul> <li>Gropp, R., T. Mosk, S. Ongena and C. Wix, 2019, Bank response to higher capital requirements: Evidence from a quasi-natural experiment, Review of Financial Studies, 32 (1), 266-299.</li> </ul>
			<ul> <li>Gropp, R., T. Mosk, S. Ongena, I. Simac and C. Wix, 2024, Supranational rules, national discretion: Increasing versus inflating regulatory bank capital? Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis, 59 (2), 830-862.</li> </ul>

## **Required Activities**

All listed articles are recommended readings. The papers are provided through the course intranet site. The books are not provided, but optional, and the students are responsible to obtain a copy of the book for their discretionary use in class.