This course covers areas of active empirical research and research methods on the effects of taxes and government spending programs.

Specific topics that will be covered include inequality, income and capital taxation, social insurance programs (Social Security, Disability Insurance, Unemployment Insurance) and intergenerational links in economic opportunities.

As estimated dynamic models are central for understanding the welfare effects of social insurance programs the course will include practical sessions on computational methods for solving them and estimating their parameters.

Note: First half will be taught in conjunction with Math Econ II.

Semester offered: Spring