About Prof. Yun-chien Chang

Prof. Yun-chien Chang is one of the world's leading scholars in Empirical Legal Studies. He is a Research Professor at Institutum Iurisprudentiae, Academia Sinica, Taiwan and serves as the Director of its Empirical Legal Studies Center. He was Global Professor of Law at New York University and a visiting professor at the University of Chicago, St. Gallen University, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and Rotterdam Institute of Law and Economics. He has also conducted research at Cornell University, University of Paris 2, and University of Tokyo. His current academic interests focus on economic, empirical and comparative analysis of property law and land use law, as well as empirical studies of the judicial system.

Prof. Chang has authored and co-authored more than 100 journal articles and book chapters. He received his J.S.D. and LL.M. degree from New York University School of Law, where he was also a Lederman/Milbank Law and Economics Fellow and a Research Associate at the Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy, NYU. Before going to NYU, Prof. Chang had earned LL.B. and LL.M. degrees at National Taiwan University and passed the Taiwan bar. Prof. Chang has had working experience with prestigious law firms in Taiwan and has served as a legal assistant for the International Trade Commission.

Time Table

10.15 – 12.45   Workshop | Session 1

- Part 1: The Empirical Dimension of Normative Arguments

- Part 2: The Genealogy of Law and Social Science

Lunch Break

14.00 – 16:00   Workshop | Session 2

- Part 3: Empirical Comparative Law

- Part 4: Visualizing Data

Coffee Break

16: 30 – 17:30 Public Lecture

- **Do Legal Origins Predict Legal Substance?** Empirical Tests with Property Law and Antitrust Law Data from 91 Countries

For registration and further questions please contact:

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Introduction to Empirical Legal Studies

Workshop

Do Legal Origins Predict Legal Substance?

Public Lecture

Prof. Yun-chien Chang

Thursday, 16th January 2020

10:15 (s.t.) – 17:30

Room Sydney

EBS Law School

Gustav-Stresemann-Ring 3 | 65189 Wiesbaden

Chair in Public Law, Empirical Legal Studies and Law & Economics

Prof. Dr. Emanuel V. Towfigh

Course Description

This 6-hour-course plus article presentation in the field of Empirical Legal Research is designed to give law students, doctoral researchers and legal scholars a non-technical overview of quantitative methods in law.

Part 1: The Empirical Dimension of Normative Arguments

More specifically, in the first part of the mini-course, I start with the puzzle of lawyers immersed in *Rechtsdogmatik*: Why should lawyers care about *sein* when all we will do is about *sollen*? I will explain why even under this conventional paradigm, normative arguments have to include empirical knowledge of cause and effect. In particular, I use the proportionality principle as an example to show that, say, a constitutional court judge cannot use the proportionality principle properly without empirical knowledge.

Background reading:

Yun-chien Chang & Xin Dai, *How to Use, and Not to Use, Proportionality Principle*,
NYU Law and Economics Research Paper No. 19-10.

Available at SSRN:
https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3345798

Part 2: The Genealogy of Law and Social Science Research Methods
With Brief Introduction to Causal Inference

In the second part of the mini-course, I will position empirical legal research in the broader "law and" movement. For instance, what is the difference between economic analysis of law and empirical legal research? What are their relationships with *Rechtsdogmatik*? I then conclude the morning sessions with a methodological primer on causal inference, and how this is different from the concept of causation discussed in torts law and criminal law.

Part 3: Empirical Comparative Law
Testing Civil Settlement Theories with German, Japanese, and Taiwanese Data

In the third part of the mini-course, I demonstrate how empirical legal research can examine legally relevant economic theories and help measure the effect of legal reforms. In particular, I use civil litigation data from Germany, Japan, and Taiwan as examples.

Background reading:

Yun-chien Chang and William H.J. Hubbard, *New Empirical Tests for Classic Litigation Selection Models*, University of Chicago Coase-Sandor Institute for Law & Economics Research Paper No. 838.

Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=3127728.

Part 4: Visualizing Data

The fourth and final part of the mini-course is a demonstration how to convert texts to tables and tables to graphs. "A picture is worth a thousand words." This is especially true in empirical legal research. Visualizing your results and understanding how one can lie with graphs and statistics are utterly important.

Public Lecture: Do Legal Origins Predict Legal Substance? Empirical Tests with Property Law and Antitrust Law Data from 91 Countries

The paper presentation following the course uses simple regression models and idiosyncratic data to shed light on an important topic in both comparative law and developmental economics—legal families / legal origins. Using coding of property law and antitrust law in almost 100 countries in the world, my co-authors and I show that legal families are useful in predicting the contents of property law, but not antitrust law.

This course is open to members of EBS University as well as interested visitors. We kindly ask you to register via mail to jan.keesen@ebs.edu.