Department of Economics
- Bachelor programme -
Courses held in English language
Spring Semester 2014

Changes and updates are published in a separate file: [http://www2.vwl.uni-mannheim.de/35.0.html](http://www2.vwl.uni-mannheim.de/35.0.html)

Please note, there is a single week to register for seminars in the Bachelor programme. The common registration period begins on the **18th November and ends on the 22nd November 2013**.
If you like to change your seminar - this can only be done in the first week after the registration period.
Additional information can be found on the web pages of the chairs.

All courses marked with a star * are suitable for students in their fourth semester.

**Version: 14th November 2013**

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A. Introductory phase

*Exercise classes for the courses Macroeconomics A and Microeconomics A will be available around 4 weeks prior to the spring semester on the web pages of the faculty.*

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**Makroökonomik A (englisch)**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vorlesung</th>
<th>4st.</th>
<th>Krebs, T.</th>
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<td>wtl</td>
<td>Fr 10:15 - 11:45</td>
<td>14.02.2014-30.05.2014 Schloss Mittelbau M 003</td>
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**Kommentar:**

Please, notice that you have to register for the lecture at "Studierendenportal". Die Vorlesung wird parallel in deutscher und in englischer Sprache gehalten!

Course title: Makroökonomik A  
Instructors: Prof. Tom Krebs, Ph.D. / Dr. Christian Manger  
Method: lecture (4) + practical exercises (2)  
Course level: Bachelor  
Course language: German (Dr. Manger) or English (Prof. Krebs, Ph.D.)  
Prerequisites: none  
Examination: written, 120 minutes  
ECTS-Credits: 8

Course description:

I. Saving and Investment (Mankiw, Chapter 3)  
- aggregate saving and investment in a closed economy  
- applications: debt-financed increase in government spending, tax-financed increase in government spending, investment boom, retirement of the baby-boom generation, etc.

II. Micro-Foundations (Mankiw, Chapter 16)  
- determinants of the consumption and saving decisions: Fisher-model of intertemporal consumption decisions under complete and incomplete markets; income and substitution effect and the saving decision  
- Euler equation: derivation and interpretation  
- life-cycle hypothesis (Modigliani)  
- permanent-income hypothesis (Friedman)  
- ricardian equivalence

III. Macroeconomic Data (Mankiw, Chapter 2)  
- national accounts  
- inflation: BIP-deflator and the CPI

IV. Open Economy (Mankiw, Chapter 5)  
- saving and investment in a small open economy  
- covered and uncovered interest parity in real and nominal terms  
- nominal und real exchange rates  
- equilibrium on goods and capital markets and the real exchange rate  
- twin deficit

V. Money (Chapter 4 and 18)  
- quantity equation and quantity theory of money  
- classical dichotomy vs. Neutrality of money  
- monetary policy in the US and in Europe: targets and instruments of the respective central banks

VI. Aggregate demand and aggregate supply (Chapters 9 & 13)  
- Short-run vs. long-run observations and questions  
- Distinction between Keynesian and (Neo-) Classical Theory  
- The AD-AS (aggregate demand – aggregate supply) Model  
- Analysis of the short-run effects of monetary and fiscal policy

VII. Economic growth (Chapters 7 & 8, two sessions)  
- Growth, prosperity, poverty  
- Empirical observations: international panel data, time series  
- The Solow Growth Model, steady state analysis  
- Convergence in the model and in the data, convergence process  
- The Golden Rule of capital
- Technological progress in the model and in the data
- VIII. Unemployment (Chapter 6, two sessions)
- International empirical observations, current situation
- The classical model of the labor market
- Labor supply, labor demand, equilibrium on the labor market
- Technological progress, minimum wages, unions
- Search unemployment, matching
- Determination of the steady state unemployment rate
- Public policy

Literature:
or die englischsprachige Ausgabe

Contact person: Prof. Tom Krebs, Ph.D., E-Mail: tkrebs@econ.uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room P05/06

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<td>Vorlesung</td>
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Kommentar:
Course title: Mikroökonomik A
Instructor: Dr. Peter Vida / Prof. Thomas Tröger
Method (hours per week): lecture (4) + practical exercises (2)
Course level: Bachelor
Course language: English
Examination: written, 120 minutes
Prerequisites: none
ECTS-Credits: 8

Course description:
Household theory, demand, decisions under uncertainty, producer theory, firm supply and factor demand, partial and general equilibrium.

Contact persons: Prof. Dr. Thomas Tröger, Tel. 181-33423, E-Mail: troeger@uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room 347; Dr. Peter Vida, Tel. 181-3059, E-Mail: pvida@mail.uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room 342
### Kommentar:


**Course title:** Applied Econometrics  
**Instructor:** Prof. Dr. Carsten Trenkler  
**Offered:** spring term 2014  
**Method (hours per week):** block seminar (2)  
**Course level:** Bachelor  
**Course language:** German/English  
**Prerequisites:** Grundlagen der Ökonometrie und Statistik I + II (Basic Econometrics and Statistics I + II)  
**Examination:** seminar paper and presentation  
**ECTS-Credits:** 6

**Course description:**
The students will conduct an own empirical study in order to become familiar with applied research which includes the ability to interpret empirical results in a meaningful way. Based on the material covered in the course *Grundlagen der Ökonometrie*, students will extend their knowledge on econometric models, estimation methods and test procedures in order to solve empirical problems. The seminar topics will refer to the multiple regression model for cross-section data as well as to microeconometric, panel data and time series models. Thereby, students should gain a broad overview on the various model classes through their own and their colleagues' projects. The maximum number of participants in the seminar is limited to 14.

The enrolment takes place in November 2013, jointly with the other block seminars. Details regarding the seminar topics and schedule will be posted on the seminar’s webpage at the beginning of the autumn term 2013.

**Contact person:** Prof. Dr. Carsten Trenkler, Tel. 181-1852, E-mail: trenkler(at)uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room 105

### Applied Microeconometrics with Stata

**Vorlesung und Übung** 4st.  
**Weber, A. / Saygin, P.**

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<td>L 7, 3-5 S 031</td>
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**Kommentar:**

**Course title:** Applied Microeconometrics with Stata  
**Instructor:** Prof. Dr. Andrea Weber, Perihan Ozge Saygin, Ph.D. (exercises)  
**Offered:** spring term 2014  
**Method (hours per week):** lecture (3) + computer tutorials (1)  
**Course level:** Bachelor  
**Course language:** German/English
Course title: Behavioural Economics  
Instructor(s): Prof. Stefan Penczynski, Ph.D.  
Offered: Spring semester, irregular cycle  
Method (hours per week): lecture (2) + practical exercises (1)  
Course level: Bachelor  
Course language: English  
Prerequisites: Grundlagenbereich  
Examination: written, 90 minutes  
ECTS-Credits: 6

Course description:  
Standard economic models make many assumptions and predictions about individual behavior. This course introduces new theories from Behavioral Economics, a young field of Economics that combines Economics and Psychology. In the light of experimental evidence, standard theories of risk, time and social preferences are revisited and more appropriate behavioral models introduced. Various forms of cognitive limitations in information processing are presented and consequences for economic behavior are highlighted. The course aims to provide access to theoretical concepts that take into account the nature of the human psyche.

Contact person(s): Prof. Stefan Penczynski, Ph.D., Tel. 181-3656, E-Mail: Stefan.penczynski@uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, Room 404

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Course title: Contract Theory  
Instructor(s): Malin Arve, Ph.D.  
Offered: spring term 2014  
Method (hours per week): lecture (2) + practical exercises (1)  
Course level: Bachelor  
Course language: English  
Prerequisites: Micro A + B. Some knowledge of game theory would be an advantage.  
Examination: Final written exam  
ECTS-Credits: 6

Course description:

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Prerequisites: Grundlagen der Ökonometrie  
Examination: written, 90 minutes  
ECTS-Credits: 8

Course description:  
This course examines econometric identification issues in empirical microeconomics and public policy analysis. It supplements topics covered in an introductory econometrics course with a focus on the sensible application of econometric methods to empirical problems. The course provides background on issues that arise when analyzing non-experimental social science data and a guide for tools that are useful for applied research. By the end of the course, students should have a firm grasp of the types of research design that can lead to convincing analysis and be comfortable working with large scale data sets.

Contact person: Prof. Dr. Andrea Weber, Tel. (0621) 181-1928, E-Mail: a.weber@uni-mannheim.de, L 7, 3-5, room 420
Course description:
This course is an introduction to contract theory and principal-agent (PA) models. It studies situations with asymmetric information (information problems). The models studied in this course can be divided into three groups:
· Adverse Selection Models
· Signaling Models
· Moral Hazard Models

In adverse selection models, one of the parties (called the agent in PA models) has more information than the other party (the principal). These models include problems such as the one that an insurance company faces. In the population there are high risk and low risk insurers. If an insurance company offers a rate tailored to the average-risk population, this rate will attract only the high-risk population and the company will lose money. We will look at how the insurance company can solve this problem and what its optimal insurance strategy should look like.

Signaling models include the famous "lemons problem" (Akerlof, 1970) where uncertainty as to the quality of a good (used cars in Akerlof's example) can hinder the functioning of the market. We analyze the equilibria of this model. We then study models with costly signaling (Spence, 1973) and show how this can help solve the dysfunctioning of Akerlof's lemons market. Finally we study cheap talk models (Crawford-Sobel, 1982) where signaling is costless.

In moral hazard models, the agent takes a decision that affects his utility and that of the principal. The principal only observes the "outcome", an imperfect signal of the decision taken by the agent. For instance, in a firm, the worker makes a decision with respect to his work intensity (effort), e.g. work or shirk. This decision affects the productivity of the firm but is not directly observed by the employer. The employer can only base the wage offered on production or some other observable variable that induces the agent not to shirk. Another good example of moral hazard is the relationship between shareholders and managers.

Contact person: Malin Arve, Ph.D., marve@mail.uni-mannheim.de, Room no. 341, L 7, 3-5, 0621-181-3056.
The student is expected to understand the assumptions underlying the different models as well as the common threats to these assumptions in practice. The student will be able to analyze panel data and basic social interaction/peer effects/networks empirically and interpret the output appropriately. Furthermore, the student should finish the course with a thorough understanding of the threats to causal evaluations in practice.

Contact person: Prof. Stephen Kastoryano, Ph.D., Tel. (0621) 181-1785 E-Mail: s.kastoryano@uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room: 1.44

### Economic Growth Comparisons over Time and Space

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blockseminar</th>
<th>2st.</th>
<th>Lee, S.</th>
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<tr>
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### Kommentar:


Course title: Economic Growth Comparisons over Time and Space  
Instructor: Prof. Sang Yoon Tim Lee, Ph.D.  
Method (hours per week): block seminar (2)  
Course level: Bachelor  
Course language: English  
Prerequisites: Macroeconomics B + introductory econometrics  
Examination: Seminar presentation (50%) and paper (50%)  
ECTS credits: 6

Course description:  
Traditional explanations for economic growth were primarily based on physical capital accumulation and population growth. More recently, economists have focused on human capital accumulation, government intervention, technological innovation, institutions, financial development, etc. In this seminar, students are asked to find their own explanations for economic growth. You will present empirical evidence, either within a single country over time (time-series) or a cross-country comparison, or both (a panel), to demonstrate that your explanation of choice indeed matters for growth, or vice versa - that growth matters for some other (important) economic variable. A negative result is also acceptable - for example, it may be the case that some factor was believed to be important, but you find that the data says otherwise. Whether your analysis is positive or negative, your motivation and analysis of your results must be backed by careful reasoning of why it should (not) matter, either through a theoretical argument or additional empirical evidence. In some classes, it may just turn out that something was not verifiable due to a lack of data - in those cases, you should explain what kind of data will be able to corroborate your study.

The course is meant to be a mutual learning opportunity not only among your peers, but also with me, where I will advise you on the methods and your thought process, but will also learn from the details of your project (I am not well professed in the entire field of growth!). A self-contained term paper covering the presented material and comments from the instructor/peers is required for final evaluation.

Expected Competence: analyze data and real world phenomena critically; academic presentation

Contact person: Prof. Sang Yoon Tim Lee, Ph.D., Tel.: (0621) 181 3751, E-Mail: sylee.tim@uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, #P09

### Family Economics*

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### Kommentar:

Please, note that you have to register for this lecture in "Studierendenportal".

Course title: Family Economics  
Instructor: Prof. Michèle Tertilt, Ph.D.  
Method (hours per week): lecture (2) + practical exercise (1)
Course level: Bachelor
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Mikro A+B, Makro A+B
Examination: written, one midterm and one final exam
ECTS: 6

Course description:
This course addresses topics in family economics. The emphasis is threefold:
1. Causes and consequences of historical changes in the organization of families (such as the demographic transition and the increase in female labor force participation).
2. The connection between economic development and family laws (such as child labor laws and the legal position of women).
3. Analysis of policies affecting families and children (such as parental leave policies, social security, education subsidies, etc.).

To analyze the issues above, the course provides a solid background in economic models of family behavior. We analyze the role of the family in traditional and modern economies. The course considers the determinants of family formation, decision making within the family, specialization of activities, fertility decisions, and intergenerational relationships. Most importantly, you should have fun with this course. Family economics is an exciting subject that studies some of the most important issues facing the world today. I expect you to participate in class and ask a lot of questions.

Exercise Classes: TBA

Course Readings: Saul D. Hoffman and Susan L. Averett, "Women and the Economy," Pearson Addison Wesley, 2010. Second edition. This textbook is required reading for the course. It is cheapest to buy the book online. Note that it typically takes a few weeks for the book to arrive, so I highly recommend to order the book before the semester starts. In addition to the book, the course will also include several published research articles as required reading material. The articles will be posted on ILIAS. Occasionally, relevant recent newspaper articles on related topics will also be posted.

Note that the textbook and reading materials are not a substitute for coming to class! Part of your responsibility as a student is to attend classes and to take notes. This is an essential part of the learning process. I will therefore not post extensive lecture online. Also, note that this course will be fairly intense, so it is essential that you do not fall behind in your readings.

Course Website: The course website (ILIAS) is an important part of the course and you are expected to use it. The website will have the most up-to-date information about our schedule. The website will also have materials such as problem sets and solutions to problem sets and exams. After the first lecture, I will not distribute hard copies of these materials in class.

Contact person: Prof. Michèle Tertilt, Ph.D., E-Mail: tertilt@uni-mannheim.de, L7 3-5 Room P 11, Tel. (0621) 181-1902

* für Studierende des 4. Fachsemesters geeignet

Financial economics

Vorlesung und Übung 3st. Lévy, R.

<table>
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Kommentar:

Course title: Financial economics
Instructor: Prof. Raphaël Lévy, Ph.D.
Method (hours per week): lecture (2) + exercise (1)
Course level: Bachelor
Course language: English
Prerequisites: none
Examination: final exam (120 minutes)
ECTS-Credits: 6

Course description:
This course is divided into two parts: the first part is an introduction to modern portfolio theory and to the capital asset pricing model (CAPM). The second part focuses on corporate finance and capital structure. Starting from the Modigliani and Miller result that capital structure is irrelevant, we then relax the assumptions of the theorem to examine the relative pros and cons of debt and equity (tradeoff theory, pecking-order theory). The core part of the course is then dedicated to the analysis of corporate finance decisions under asymmetric information: In particular, we will devote much attention the way firm owners design financial contracts in order to keep avoid opportunistic behavior of managers.

Contact person: Prof. Raphaël Lévy, Ph.D., Tel. (0621) 181-1913. E-Mail: raphlevy@gmail.com
### Geld- und Währungspolitisches Seminar / Seminar in Monetary and International Financial Policy

**Seminar**

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<td>08.03.2014-08.03.2014</td>
<td>L 7, 3-5 P 043</td>
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<td>09:30 - 17:00</td>
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<td>22.03.2014-22.03.2014</td>
<td>L 7, 3-5 P 043</td>
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**Kommentar:**

Anmeldungen sind ab dem 18. November 2013 am Lehrstuhl möglich.

**Course title:** Geld- und Währungspolitisches Seminar / Seminar in Monetary and International Financial Policy  
**Instructor:** Prof. Dr. Roland Vaubel  
**Method (hours per week):** seminar (2)  
**Course level:** Bachelor, recommended term: 6  
**Course language:** German and English  
**Examination:** term paper only  
**ECTS-Credits:** 6

**Course description:**  
Discussion of term papers on selected topics in the field of monetary and international financial policy. The term papers have to be handed in on the first day (noon) of the lecturing period. A list of suggested topics is posted as of Nov 18th, 2013 on the message board and on the website of the chair http://vaubel.uni-mannheim.de/lehre/index.html

**Contact person:** Prof. Dr. Roland Vaubel, Tel.: 0621/181-1816, E-mail: vaubel@uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room 2-12

### Great Depressions of the 20th Century

**Blockseminar**

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**Kommentar:**


**Course title:** Great Depressions of the Twentieth Century  
**Instructor:** Jun.-Prof. Cezar Ramos Santos, Ph.D.  
**Offered:** spring term 2014  
**Method (hours per week):** block seminar  
**Course level:** Bachelor  
**Course language:** English  
**ECTS-Credits:** 6

**Course description:**  
The worldwide Great Depression of the 1930s was a watershed for both economic thought and economic policymaking. Yet today—roughly seventy years later—economists and policymakers are still studying and debating what caused this catastrophic economic event. Moreover, although the Great Depression is often viewed as a unique event, recent research suggests that during the twentieth century, numerous economies experienced large-scale declines in economic activity. The papers in the book study sixteen depressions using a common framework.

Grading:  
The grading for this course will be based on participation in the seminar, including a presentation, as well as a final term paper, as follows: Participation 10% | Presentation 50% | Final Paper 40%

Presentation:  
You have to prepare a 50-minute presentation based on one of the chapters (depressions) from the book. Then, we'll have some time for a Q&A session, in which you should be prepared to answer questions about the paper.
Final Paper:
After all the presentations, you will need to write a term paper summarizing and critically commenting on your paper and critically contrasting it to (at least) one other paper from the book. The idea is to discuss what the papers and historic events have in common, what was different, etc.
Deadline for the Final Paper: 02/05/2014
• Webpage: Course material will be posted on ILIAS (ilias.uni-mannheim.de)
• Book: "Great Depressions of the Twentieth Century," Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.

Contact person: Prof. Cezar Santos, Ph.D., Tel: (0621) 181-1854, E-mail: santos@uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room P04

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History of Economics

Vorlesung und Übung  4st.  Svorencik, A.


wtl  Do  15:30 - 17:00  13.02.2014-29.05.2014  L 9, 1-2 002

Kommentar:

Course title: History of Economics
Instructor: Andrej Svorencik (Prof. Dr. Dirk Engelmann responsible)
Method (hours per week): lecture (2) + exercise (2)
Course level: Bachelor
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Introductory Micro & Macro (eligibility can be discussed with the instructor)
Examination: final exam + short written assignments + exercise participation
ECTS-Credits: 7

Course description:
Over the past centuries economics has changed from a largely verbal discipline that studied human agency in commercial settings to a mathematical discipline that has come to incorporate more instruments from the scientific toolbox (such as statistics and laboratory practices). The purpose of this course is to uncover the rich intellectual genealogy that still underlies many of the concepts and theories used by economists and to see how modern economics emerged to take its present form. To do this, we will put the development of economic ideas, theories, and methods in their appropriate historical context. The course will emphasize the incisive change of the economic discipline from the interwar to the post-war period. The course reading consists of the recent and well-received history of economics textbook by Roger Backhouse and selected primary historical texts. The textbook offers us snapshots that range from the rise of commercial society in the seventeenth century, via the development of statistical thinking in the nineteenth to the prominent place economists gained in the public and policy domain after the WWII.
Reader of selected primary texts (available on course website)

Contact person: Andrej Svorencik, Tel. 181 - 3425, E-Mail: svorencik@uni-mannheim.de, Office: L7, 3-5, R 4.06

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Internet Economics

Vorlesung  Wang, C.

wtl  Mo  17:15 - 19:45  10.02.2014-24.03.2014  L7, 3-5 S 031


Kommentar:

Course title: Internet Economics
Instructors: Dr. Chengsi Wang
Offered: spring term 2014
Method (hours per week): lecture (3), the course will be given in the time period of 7 weeks (February 10th-March 28th )
Course level: Bachelor
Course language: English  
Prerequisites: Micro 1+2, Industrial Organization, (a Game Theory course is also recommended)  
Examination: Written exam  
ECTS-Credits: 7

Course description:  
The rapid development of Internet provides not only new business models and life styles but also a novel area for economists to explore. We are especially interested in how the online business is organized, what role the search intermediaries play in getting together buyers and sellers, the optimal design of online environment and the related efficiency issues. The topics we are going to cover are based on real world examples, such as consumer search using search engines, competition between major search engines such as Google and Yahoo, information overload and junk emails, online auction on eBay and so on. Although the course title strongly suggests its real-world relevance, the course is mostly theory orientated. The theoretical models we cover are at the proper level for students with solid microeconomics and math background. However, we also discuss related case studies, empirical works and experiments.  

The exam will take place in the last lecture on the 28th March 2014.  
Contact person: Dr. Chengsi Wang, Tel. 181-2786, E-mail: chengsiwang@gmail.com, L 7, 3-5, room 3.31

Mass Media and Policymaking  
Blockseminar  
Zudenkova, G.

<table>
<thead>
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Komentar:  
Die Vorbesprechung findet am 12. Februar 2014 um 8:30 Uhr in Raum L7, 3-5 – 410 statt.  

Course title: Mass Media and Policymaking  
Instructor: Prof. Galina Zudenkova, Ph.D.  
Offered: spring term 2014  
Method (hours per week): block seminar (2)  
Course level: Bachelor  
Course language: English  
Prerequisites: Intermediate Microeconomics (Micro B)  
Examination: Seminar presentation (50%) + report (50%)  
ECTS-Credits: 6  

Course description:  
We discuss the role the media plays in policy determination. This topic is attracting increasing attention from economists. The main role of the media is to provide information to citizens concerning policy options and the performance of their politicians. We will analyze the recent work on the topic.

Students are responsible for one presentation. Students will also have to write a report evaluating the paper they have presented and suggesting extensions as well as further applications. Grades will be based on the seminar presentations and the report.

Contact person: Prof. Galina Zudenkova, Ph.D., Tel. 0621-181-1781, E-Mail: galina.zudenkova@uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room 224

Seminar in experimental economics: social preferences*  
Blockseminar  
2st.  
Engelmann, D.

Komentar:  

Course title: Seminar in experimental economics: social preferences  
Instructor(s): Prof. Dr. Dirk Engelmann  
Offered: every summer semester
### Seminar in Public Economics

**Blockseminar**  
2st.  
Boyer, P.

| Einzel | Fr | 17:00 - 19:00 | 14.02.2014-14.02.2014 | L 7, 3-5 P 043 |

#### Kommentar:

The introductory meeting takes place on Friday, 14th February 2014 at 5pm in room L7, 3-5 - P 043.

**Course title:** Seminar in Public Economics  
**Instructor:** Prof. Pierre Boyer, Ph.D.  
**Offered:** spring term 2014  
**Method (hours per week):** block seminar (2)  
**Course level:** Bachelor  
**Course language:** English  
**Prerequisites:** Microeconomics A and B and Public Economics or equivalent  
**Examination:** One presentation and a report on a research article.  
**ECTS-Credits:** 6

#### Course description:

Seminar participants will see recent topics in Public Economics and the course should prove useful for any student interested in developing a Bachelor thesis on public policy issues.  
Our discussion of each paper presented is designed to accomplish both substantive and methodological objectives. On one hand, we want to understand how to explain the particular substantive theme, addressing the concepts, theories and evidence presented. The readings are chosen to introduce a variety of substantive topics, not to be definitive on any of them.  
On the other hand, we want to understand strengths and limitations of various approaches. We will focus on hierarchies and bureaucracies. Each seminar participant is responsible for the presentation of one paper. Each presentation should be about 45 minutes long, followed by another 15 minutes of discussion.  
The introductory meeting takes place on Friday, 14th February 2014 at 5pm in room L7, 3-5 - P 043.

**Contact person:** Prof. Pierre Boyer, Ph.D., L7,3-5, room 217, Tel. (0621) 181-3455, E-Mail: pierre.boyer@uni-mannheim.de

### Seminar on Contract Theory

**Blockseminar**  
2st.  
Arve, M.

| Einzel | Di | 10:15 - 11:45 | 04.03.2014-04.03.2014 |

#### Kommentar:

The preferred time and date for the Block-seminar is May Friday 9 + May Saturday 10 (the Organizational meeting is on March Tuesday 4).
Course title: Seminar on Contract Theory
Instructor(s): Malin Arve, Ph.D.
Offered: spring term 2014
Method (hours per week): Block seminar (2)
Course level: Bachelor
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Micro A + B. Some knowledge of game theory would be an advantage. For students interested in the topic, the elective course on Contract Theory is also a good prerequisite.
Examination: Oral presentation + short seminar paper
ECTS-Credits: 6

Course description:
This seminar deals with topics in contract theory, both adverse selection and moral hazard (more information about this in the course description of the course on Contract Theory). A special focus will be given to procurement contracts and public contracting in general.

Contact person: Malin Arve, Ph.D., marve@mail.uni-mannheim.de, Room no. 341, L 7, 3-5, 0621-181-3056.

Seminar on Empirical IO
Blockseminar Schmidt-Dengler, P. / Wakamori, N.
Einzel Mo 15:30 - 17:00 17.02.2014-17.02.2014 L 9, 1-2 002

Kommentar:

Course Title: Seminar on Empirical IO
Instructor(s): Dr. Naoki Wakamori, Prof. Dr. Philipp Schmidt-Dengler
Offered: Spring term 2013
Method (hours per week): Block Seminar, Organizational meeting will be on February 17th, 3:30-5:00 p.m.
Course level: Bachelor
Course Language: English
Prerequisites: Microeconomics B, Econometrics and Industrial Organization
Examination: No exam, oral presentation and critical report will be used for evaluation
ECTS-Credits: 6

Course Description:
This block seminar will cover recent empirical papers in Industrial Organization. In particular, we will focus on studies of financial sector, including the markets for mutual funds, stocks, underwriters, retail and consumer banking, and the behavior of central banks. The prerequisites of this course are Microeconomics B, Econometrics and Industrial Organization. Groups of two students each will present one paper and write a report evaluating the paper critically and suggesting improvements as well as further applications. You will find a list of suggested papers and guidelines for reading your paper and writing your report on the course website indicated below. You should come and see me to discuss your presentation no later than March 21 (one week prior to the seminar).

Here are some sample papers:

Course Website: http://www.sites.google.com/site/nwakamori

Contact person(s): Dr. Naoki Wakamori, Tel. 181-1896 (office hours: to be announced), E-mail: nwakamori@mail.uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, Room 4.16
Seminar Spieltheorie

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<tr>
<th>Ansicht</th>
<th>Montag</th>
<th>10:15 - 11:45</th>
<th>07.04.2014-30.05.2014</th>
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Kommentar:


Course title: Seminar Spieltheorie (Seminar Game Theory)
Instructor: Prof. Dr. Thomas Tröger
Offered: Once a year
Method (hours per week): Seminar (2 SWS), since the course is set up for the second half of the semester (April 7th until May 30th) it therefore has 4 hours of lecture time each week.
Course level: Bachelor
Course language: German, English on demand
Prerequisites: Lecture Spieltheorie (Lecture Game Theory)
Examination: Seminar presentation (50%), seminar paper (33%) and active participation (17%)
ECTS-Credits: 6

Course description:
Goals and Contents: Building on the abilities obtained in the course on game theory, students are led to independent reading of scientific articles. To this end, selected articles from current research are used. The students present these articles in front of other students and in a written homework assignment.

Contact person: Prof. Dr. Thomas Tröger, Tel.: 181-3423, Email: troeger@uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, Room 3.47

Social Security and Social Insurance

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<tr>
<th>Vorlesung und Übung</th>
<th>Dienstag</th>
<th>12:00 - 14:15</th>
<th>12.02.2014-30.05.2014</th>
<th>L 7, 3-5 S 031</th>
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Kommentar:

Course title: Social Security and Social Insurance
Instructor: Prof. Pierre Boyer, Ph.D.
Method (hours per week): lecture (2) + exercise (1)
Course level: Bachelor
Course language: English
Prerequisites: Microeconomics A and B
Examination: written final exam, 90 min.
ECTS-Credits: 6

Course description:
The course focuses on the state’s role in providing social security and social insurance programs. We will take both normative and positive perspectives. This course will include some exercises.

1. Introduction
2. Unemployment Insurance, disability Insurance, and Workers’ Compensation
3. Social Insurance
4. Social Security and retirement programs

Useful references are:

Contact person: Prof. Pierre Boyer, Ph.D., L7,3-5, room 217, Tel. (0621) 181-3455, E-Mail: pierre.boyer@uni-mannheim.de
### Strategic Information Transmission

**Blockseminar**


**Kommentar:**


Time and Date of the organizational meeting: February 17th, 10:15 a.m. (date and time of the block seminar will be announced at this meeting)

Course title: Strategic Information Transmission  
Instructor(s): Jun.-Prof. Dr. Takakazu Honryo  
Offered: spring term 2014  
Method (hours per week): block seminar (2)  
Course level: Bachelor  
Course language: English  
Prerequisites: Basic knowledge of non-cooperative game theory  
Examination: Term paper, presentation  
ECTS-Credits: 6

**Course description:**

Students are required to pick one paper in selected topics and give a presentation to discuss the paper’s strengths and weaknesses. Based on comments that they receive in the presentation, students are required to write a report summarizing the seminar paper. Topics include cheap talk games, persuasion games, and their application to political economics. To make a presentation in class based on a paper of your choice on strategic information transmission, I recommend you pick a paper from the list I will distribute.

Contact person(s): Prof. Dr. Takakazu Honryo, Tel. 181-3062, E-mail: thonryo@mail.uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room 3.43

### Strategic Thinking

**Blockseminar**

| Einzel | 2st. | 10:15 - 17:00 | 28.02.2014-28.02.2014 |

| Einzel | Sa | 10:15 - 13:30 | 01.03.2014-01.03.2014 |

**Kommentar:**


Course title: Strategic Thinking  
Instructor: Prof. Dr. Stefan Penczynski  
Offered: irregular cycle  
Method (hours per week): seminar (2)  
Course level: Bachelor  
Course language: English  
Prerequisites: Grundlagenphase  
Examination: seminar paper, oral presentation  
ECTS-Credits: 6

**Course description:**

The standard tool to predict strategic outcomes with Game Theory is the Nash Equilibrium. Experimental work has shown that subjects do not play equilibrium actions in new and unfamiliar strategic situations. This seminar will introduce students to the young field of strategic thinking. We will consider theoretical developments in modeling strategic reasoning processes, new areas in which these models can be applied as well as novel experimental methods to obtain data about reasoning processes.

Contact person: Prof. Stefan Penczynski PhD, Tel. 181-3656, E-Mail: stefan.penczynski@uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room 404. Office hours: Tue., 9.30-11.00h.
<table>
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<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Offered</th>
<th>Method (hours per week)</th>
<th>Course Level</th>
<th>Course Language</th>
<th>Examination</th>
<th>ECTS-Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Economics of Discrimination</td>
<td>Weber, A.</td>
<td>irregular cycle</td>
<td>block seminar (2)</td>
<td>Bachelor</td>
<td>German/English</td>
<td>presentation and report</td>
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<td>The Theory of Regulation under Asymmetric Information</td>
<td>Fiocco, R.</td>
<td>spring term 2014</td>
<td>block seminar of 2-3 days (2)</td>
<td>Bachelor</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Presentation by students and seminar paper</td>
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Course description:
In many industries such as electricity, gas, sanitation, telecommunications, transport and water, unfettered competition is
demed inappropriate, often because technological considerations render the supply by one or few firms optimal. This implies
that there is room for regulation. In practice, a regulator has limited information about consumer demand in the industry or
about the technological capabilities of regulated producers. Thus, a critical issue is how, if at all, the regulator can best induce
the regulated firm to employ its privileged information to further the broad interests of society, rather than to pursue its own
interests.

This seminar intends to study the fundamental aspects of the theory of regulation under asymmetric information.

Contact person: Dr. Raffaele Fiocco, E-mail: raffaele.fiocco@uni-mannheim.de

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<tr>
<th>Time Series Analysis</th>
<th>Vorlesung und Übung</th>
<th>4st.</th>
<th>Stocker, T.</th>
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Kommentar:

Course title: Time Series Analysis
Instructor: Dr. Toni Stocker
Method (hours per week): lecture (2) + practical exercises (2)
Course level: Bachelor
Course language: English on demand
Prerequisites: Basic Statistics, Basic Econometrics. Laptop needed
Examination: written (120 min) 80%, practical exercises 20%
ECTS-Credits: 7

Course description:
The lecture gives an introduction to applied univariate and multivariate time series techniques and will cover AR(1)MA, ADL,
VAR and GARCH processes. We will discuss model specification and diagnosis, forecasting and unit root testing. Depending
on time, we will also cover estimation of dynamic causal effects and the cointegration concept. The lecture will be accompanied
by computer tutorials and exercises. The statistical software package R will intensively be used throughout this course.
Please have a look on our website http://mammen.vwl.uni-mannheim.de/ at the beginning of the semester for more course
information.

Contact person: Dr. Toni Stocker, E-Mail: stocker@rumms.uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room 143, Tel. 181-3963

Transport Economics and Policy

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<th>Vorlesung</th>
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<th>Hüschelrath, K.</th>
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<td>12:00 - 13:30</td>
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Kommentar:

Course title: Transport Economics and Policy
Instructor: Prof. Dr. K. Hüschelrath
Method (hours per week): lecture (2)
Course level: Bachelor
Course language: English
Examination: written, 90 min
ECTS-Credits: 5

Course description:
The course provides an introduction to transport economics and policy covering topics such as the economic characteristics of
transport, transport demand, direct and external costs of transport, pricing of transport services, economic regulation and
deregulation of specific modes of transportation, competition in transport markets or optimizing traffic congestion.
The course is primarily based in microeconomics but also considers the interface of transportation economics with other
disciplines. Although the course does not focus on any particular mode of transportation, illustrative case studies will look at
specific modal examples such as, e.g., airlines, road networks or rail freight.
C. Economic and social history

**Forschungsseminar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forschungsseminar</th>
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**Kommentar:**

Im Forschungsseminar präsentieren Mannheimer und auswärtige Wissenschaftler und Doktoranden ihre aktuellen Forschungsprojekte. Es können daran außer Studierenden im Bachelor- und Masterstudiengang VWL und Doktoranden der Abteilung VWL auch Absolventen geschichtswissenschaftlicher Studiengänge teilnehmen. 

Homepage: [http://wirtschaftsgeschichte.vwl.uni-mannheim.de/](http://wirtschaftsgeschichte.vwl.uni-mannheim.de/)

Course title: Forschungsseminar  
Instructor: Dr. Francesco Cinnirella  
Offered: every semester  
Method (hours per week): seminar (2)  
Course level: Bachelor, Master, Diploma, Ph.D.  
Course language: The research seminar will be in general held in English.  
Examination: none  
ECTS-Credits: none

Course description:  
In this seminar both researchers from other universities and doctoral students from Mannheim will present their actual research projects.

Contact person: Dr. Francesco Cinnirella, e-mail cinnirella@ifo.de

**The Role of Geography, Culture and Institutions in Long-Run Growth**

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**Kommentar:**


Course title: The Role of Geography, Culture and Institutions in Long-Run Growth  
Instructor: Dr. Francesco Cinnirella  
Method (hours per week): lecture (3)  
Course level: Bachelor  
Course language: English  
Prerequisites: The lecture "Einführung in die Wirtschaftsgeschichte für Volkswirte" or another introductory course in economic history is recommended but not an indispensable condition for the attendance.
Examination: written, 135 minutes
ECTS-Credits: 7

Course description:
In this course we will study long-run trends in economic history. In particular, we will explore in detail the role of geography (e.g. soil quality), institutions and cultural factors (e.g. religion and social capital) in explaining long-run growth. We will devote particular attention to the relationship between technological progress and fertility. In this respect we will analyze the theories and the empirical evidence on the causes of the fertility transition, such as the role of human capital accumulation. The analysis of these factors will help us to answer the following questions: Why are income differences between nations so large? How can past events still affect modern economic environments? Which are the mechanisms that allow the persistence of these effects? The course does not follow a chronological order but is constructed around topics. The comprehension and interpretation of empirical evidence constitutes an important part of the course.

Contact person: Dr. Francesco Cinnirella, E-Mail: cinnirella@ifo.de

D. Other courses for Economists

Business Studies & Economics: Library Basics

Dates: Tuesday, 25.02.14, 10:15-11:45 h
Meeting point: InfoCenter in the library “Schloss Schneckenhof” - West Entry

This information session is especially targeted at exchange students in the areas of Business Studies or Economics. It provides students with an overview of the University Library and answers questions such as:
- Which services does the University Library offer?
- How does the online catalog ‘Primo’ work?
- Where and how do I find the library branches which are relevant for me?
- How can I access the library's electronic resources?

After the information session there will be a short tour through the relevant libraries (Schloss Schneckenhof (Business Studies), Schloss Ehrenhof (Economics, Accounting & Taxation), textbook library.
Course language: English
Target audience: Students in Business Studies or Economics new at the University of Mannheim

Further dates by arrangement (starting from 5 participants).
The course can also be booked by lecturers for seminar or thesis courses. Please contact the responsible subject librarian for date arrangements or further information.

Economics: Katharina Rautenberg, email: katharina.rautenberg@bib.uni-mannheim.de, phone: 0621/181-3018.
Note for registration:
Interested persons, who are not students of the University of Mannheim, please contact the responsible subject librarian by telephone or email for registration.

Business Studies & Economics: Literature Search

Dates: Thursday, 27.02.14, 10:15-11:45 h
Meeting point: Library “Schloss Ehrenhof”, training classroom (Schulungsraum)

The course teaches techniques of a scientific literature search by the example of Economics and Business databases (Business Source Premier, ABI/INFORM Complete, EconLit) and describes how to get access to the books and electronic documents.
Course language: English
Target audience: Students in Business Studies or Economics

Further dates by arrangement (starting from 5 participants).
The course can also be booked for seminar or thesis courses. Please contact the responsible subject librarian for date arrangements or further information.

Economics: Katharina Rautenberg, email: katharina.rautenberg@bib.uni-mannheim.de, phone: 0621/181-3018.
Note for registration:
Interested persons, who are not students of the University of Mannheim, please contact the responsible subject librarian by telephone or email for registration.