

**Department of Economics**  
**- Bachelor programme -**  
**Course catalogue (Courses held in English)**  
**Fall semester 2014**

Changes and updates are published in a separate file: <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 **12<sup>th</sup> May and ends on the 16<sup>th</sup> May 2014**.

If you like to change your seminar - this can only be done in the first week after the registration period.

**Updated: 08.05.2014**

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## A. Introductory phase

Exercise classes for the courses Macroeconomics B, Microeconomics B and International Economics will be available around 4 weeks prior to the fall semester on the web pages of the faculty.

### **Internationale Ökonomik/ International Economics**

Mittwoch 17:15 Uhr bis 18:45 Uhr wöchentlich 03.09.2014 - 03.12.2014  
L9, 1-2 004

Kommentar:

Course title: Internationale Ökonomik  
Instructor: Harald Fadinger  
Offered: fall semesters  
Method: lecture (2) and practical exercises (2)  
Course level: Bachelor  
Course language: English  
Prerequisites: Microeconomics A/ Macroeconomics A  
Examination: written exam, 90 min.  
ECTS-Credits: 6

Course description:

The first half of the course covers core models of international trade, such as classical theories of comparative advantage (Ricardo and Heckscher-Olin) and trade models with scale economies (Krugman).

The second half of the course covers international macroeconomics. We will discuss the inter temporal approach to the current account, international capital flows, exchange rates, fiscal and monetary policy in open economies.

Contact person: Harald Fadinger

### **Makroökonomik B (englisch) (Vorlesung)**

Dienstag 10:15 Uhr bis 11:45 Uhr wöchentlich 02.09.2014 - 02.12.2014  
Schloss Schneckenhof Nord SN 163

Dienstag 15:30 Uhr bis 17:00 Uhr 14-täglich 02.09.2014 - 25.11.2014  
A 5, 6 Bauteil B B 144

Kommentar:

Course title: Makroökonomik B (englisch)  
Instructor: Prof. Dr. Sebastian Findeisen  
Method (hours per week): lecture (3) + practical exercises (2)  
Course level: Bachelor  
Course language: English  
Prerequisites: Makroökonomik A recommended  
Examination: There will be one midterm and one final exam (all written). The course grade will be computed as follows Midterm 40% of course grade, Final 60% of course grade. The (tentative) date of the midterm is October 14. Participation in the midterm is compulsory for taking the final exam in December. However, the retake exam in February is independent of the midterm.  
ECTS-Credits: 8

Course description:

- A one-period model of the macroeconomy
- Savings and investment
- Money and business cycles
- Topics in banking

Remark: This course offers a micro-founded introduction to modern macro models of the business cycle, including a mathematical derivation of these models. We will therefore draw heavily on the contents of the courses Analysis and Mikroökonomik A.

Note: there is also an independent German version of Macro B. Both courses cover essentially the same material and adopt the same book. Moreover, the exercise sessions on both languages will discuss the same problem sets. However, organizational details and grading will be determined by each instructor.

Literature:

Stephen Williamson "Macroeconomics" Fifth (or fourth) Edition, Pearson.

Contact person: Prof. Dr. Sebastian Findeisen, E-Mail: [findeisen@uni-mannheim.de](mailto:findeisen@uni-mannheim.de), office: L7, 3-5 room P 08, Tel.: (0621)181-1871

**Mikroökonomik B (englisch) (Vorlesung)**

|                         |                         |             |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Montag                  | 15:30 Uhr bis 17:00 Uhr | 14-täglich  | 01.09.2014 - 24.11.2014 |
| Schloss Mittelbau M 003 |                         |             |                         |
| Mittwoch                | 10:15 Uhr bis 11:45 Uhr | wöchentlich | 03.09.2014 - 03.12.2014 |
| Schloss Mittelbau M 003 |                         |             |                         |

Kommentar:

Syllabus:

Hal R. Varian, Grundzüge der Mikroökonomik. (6. Auflage), Oldenburg, 2004.  
Robert S. Pindyck und Daniel S. Rubinfeld, Mikroökonomie. (6. oder 7. Auflage), Pearson Studium, 2005.

Course title: Mikroökonomie B

Instructors: Prof. Kathleen Nosal

Method (hours per week): 3 (lecture) + 2 (practical exercises)

Course level: Bachelor

Course language: English

Examination: written, 120 min

ECTS-Credits: 8

Course description:

imperfect competition: monopoly, monopsony and oligopoly; strategic actions; game theory; externalities; public goods; markets with asymmetric information.

Contact person: Jeanette Barthel, Secretary, Tel. 181-1877, E-Mail: [barthel@uni-mannheim.de](mailto:barthel@uni-mannheim.de), L7, 3-5, room 321

## B. Advanced phase

### Lectures

#### Applied Microeconometrics with Stata

|                        |                         |             |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Freitag<br>L9, 1-2 003 | 12:00 Uhr bis 13:30 Uhr | wöchentlich | 05.09.2014 - 05.12.2014 |
| Freitag<br>L9, 1-2 003 | 13:45 Uhr bis 15:15 Uhr | wöchentlich | 05.09.2014 - 05.12.2014 |

#### Kommentar:

Course title: Angewandte Mikroökonomie mit STATA / Applied Microeconometrics with STATA

Instructor: Prof. Dr. Irene Bertschek / Thomas Niebel

Offered: fall term

Method (hours per week): Lecture (2), practical exercises (2)

Course Level: Bachelor

Course Language: German or English

Prerequisites: Grundlagen der Ökonometrie / Basic Econometrics

Examination: written final exam, 90 min., and practical exercises

ECTS-Credits: 7

#### Course description:

This course will give an overview of microeconomic tools and their applications to large-scale micro-data. Students will learn how to choose and apply appropriate econometric tools considering OLS regression, instrumental variable estimation, discrete choice methods, panel data analysis etc. The focus will be on identification issues and on developing a convincing research design. Moreover, the course will provide an introduction to social network analysis.

Contact person: Irene Bertschek, E-Mail: [bertschek@zew.de](mailto:bertschek@zew.de), Tel. 1235-178, L7,1, room 347.

#### Applied Multivariate Statistics

|                          |                         |             |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Freitag<br>L7, 3-5 P 043 | 10:15 Uhr bis 11:45 Uhr | wöchentlich | 05.09.2014 - 05.12.2014 |
| Freitag<br>L7, 3-5 P 043 | 08:30 Uhr bis 10:00 Uhr | wöchentlich | 12.09.2014 - 05.12.2014 |

#### Kommentar:

In dieser Veranstaltung werden klassische statistische Methoden zur Beschreibung und Analyse höherdimensionaler Daten vorgestellt. Von der statistischen Software R wird dabei intensiver Gebrauch gemacht.

Themen: Allgemeine Grundlagen, grafische Methoden, Hauptkomponentenanalyse, Faktorenanalyse, verschiedene Methoden zur Diskriminierung, Klassifizierung und Gruppierung von Daten. Studenten ohne Kenntnisse in Ökonometrie empfehle ich, vorher mit mir Kontakt aufzunehmen.

Literatur: Richard A. Johnson, Dean W. Wichern (2007): Applied Multivariate Statistical Analysis; Pearson International Edition.

Course title: Applied Multivariate Statistics

Instructor: Dr. Toni Stocker

Offered: fall semester 2014

Method (hours per week): lecture (2) + practical exercises (2)

Course level: Bachelor

Course language: English on demand

Prerequisites: Basic Statistics, Basic Econometrics (would be helpful), Laptop required!

Examination: 80% written exam (120 minutes), 20% practical exercises

ECTS-Credits: 7

Course description:

In this course, classical statistical methods for describing and analyzing high-dimensional data will be introduced. The statistical software package R will intensively be used. Topics: Principal Components, Factor Analysis, various methods for discrimination, classification and clustering of data. Students without any background in Econometrics are recommended to contact me.

Please, have a look on our website <http://mammen.vwl.uni-mannheim.de/> at the beginning of the semester for more course information.

Contact persons: Dr. Toni Stocker, E-Mail: [stocker@rumms.uni-mannheim.de](mailto:stocker@rumms.uni-mannheim.de), L7, 3-5, room 143, Tel. 181-3963.

### **Economic Policy and Market Imperfections**

Dienstag 12:00 bis 13.30 Uhr wöchentlich 02.09.2014 - 02.12.2014  
L7, 3-5 P 044

Dienstag 15.30 bis 17:00 Uhr 14-täglich 02.09.2014 - 25.11.2014  
L7, 3-5 P 044

Kommentar

Course title: Economic Policy and Market Imperfections

Instructor: Prof. Dr. Sebastian Siegloch

Method (hours per week): lecture (2) + exercise class (1)

Course level: Bachelor

Course language: English

Prerequisites: Mikroökonomik A + B, Grundlagen der Ökonometrie

Examination: written, 90 min.

ECTS-Credits: 6

Course description:

Most economic models take as reference a perfectly competitive market, which limits the role of economic policy. This course aims at discussing the effects of real world economic policies and institutions if markets are imperfect. Among others, economic policies to be investigated are income and corporate taxation, selected labor market institutions and social policies. The goal of the course is to link theoretical considerations to current empirical evidence on the effects of public policies.

Contact person: Prof. Dr. Sebastian Siegloch, e-Mail: [Siegloch@iza.org](mailto:Siegloch@iza.org)

## History of Economics

Mittwoch 13:45 Uhr bis 15:15 Uhr wöchentlich 03.09.2014 - 03.12.2014  
Room: tba  
Mittwoch 17:15 Uhr bis 18:45 Uhr wöchentlich 03.09.2014 - 03.12.2014  
Room: tba

Kommentar:

Course title: History of Economics  
Instructor: Andrej Svorencik  
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.

Roger E. Backhouse, (2002). The ordinary business of life : a history of economics from the ancient world to the twenty-first century. Princeton, N.J., Princeton University Press.  
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

## Industrial Organization

Montag 17:15 Uhr bis 19:30 Uhr wöchentlich 01.09.2014 - 01.12.2014  
L7, 3-5 001

Kommentar:

Course title: Industrial Organization  
Offered: Every fall term  
Instructor: Prof. Nicolas Schutz, Ph.D.  
Method: lecture (2) + practical exercise (1)  
Course level: Bachelor  
Course language: English  
Prerequisites: Micro A and B  
Examination: written, 90 minutes  
ECTS-Credits: 6

Course description:

In a market economy, firms are in charge of deciding what and how much to produce, and consumers respond to this by shopping for the best alternative. This course analyzes the behavior of firms. It aims to answer the following questions: What is a firm? What defines the boundaries of a firm? Given established boundaries, how do firms make production decisions and how do they compete with each other? Should government meddle with the operation of firms?

The course is organized as follows:

1. Review on perfect competition
2. Review on game theory
3. Monopoly
4. Static oligopoly
5. Dynamic oligopoly and collusion
6. Product differentiation
7. Information
8. Advertising
9. Merger, entry and market structure
10. Network effects
11. Vertical relations
12. Patents and R&D
13. Antitrust

Contact person: Prof. Nicolas Schutz, Ph.D., E-Mail: nschutz@mail.uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room 310, Tel. 181-1872, Office hours: Wednesday, 3:30pm to 5:30pm.

**International Financial Policy**

|                           |                         |             |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Mittwoch<br>L7, 3-5 S 031 | 12:00 Uhr bis 13:30 Uhr | wöchentlich | 03.09.2014 - 03.12.2014 |
| Freitag<br>L7, 3-5 S 031  | 10:15 Uhr bis 11:45 Uhr | 14-täglich  | 05.09.2014 - 05.12.2014 |

Kommentar:

Inhalt:

1. Grundlagen der Wechselkursstheorie
2. Wechselkurspolitik und Weltwährungsordnung
3. Die europäische Währungsintegration
4. Die offizielle internationale Liquidität
5. Internationale Kapitalbewegungen

Literaturhinweise:

Eine Liste ausgewählter Aufsätze wird in der Vorlesung verteilt und ist am Lehrstuhl erhältlich.

Die Klausur kann wahlweise auf Englisch oder Deutsch geschrieben werden.  
Die Veranstaltung wird in englischer Sprache gehalten.

Course title: International Financial Policy  
Instructor: Prof. Dr. Roland Vaubel  
Method (hours per week): lecture (3)  
Course level: Bachelor

Course language: English

Examination: written, 135 minutes (The exam may be written in English or German.)

ECTS-Credits: 7

Course description:

1. Foundations of exchange rate theory
2. Exchange rate policy and the international monetary system
3. European monetary integration
4. Official international liquidity
5. International capital movements and international debt

Contact person: Prof. Dr. Roland Vaubel, Tel. 181-1816, E-Mail: vaubel@uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room 212.

### Law and Economics

|                         |                         |             |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Dienstag<br>L9, 1-2 003 | 08:30 Uhr bis 11:45 Uhr | wöchentlich | 21.10.2014 - 02.12.2014 |
| Mittwoch<br>L9, 1-2 003 | 08:30 Uhr bis 10:00 Uhr | wöchentlich | 22.10.2014 - 03.12.2014 |

Kommentar:

Course title: Law and Economics

Instructor: Prof. Galina Zudenkova, PhD

Offered: every fall semester

Method (hours per week): lecture (2) and practical exercise (1)

Course level: Bachelor

Course language: English

Prerequisites: Intermediate Microeconomics, Basic Game Theory

Examination: Final Exam, written 90 min. (85%) + Participation in class (15%)

ECTS-Credits: 6

Course description:

This course provides an introduction to the field of Law and Economics. It covers core ideas in the areas of tort law, contract law and criminal law, property law and the Coase Theorem, intellectual property law and constitutional law, among others. The focus of the lectures will be primarily on theoretical work. Practice exercises will be assigned during the semester. The course provides an introduction to economic analysis and its application to legal rules and institutions that is accessible to any student who has taken principles of microeconomics and game theory. Students leave the course understanding how microeconomic theory can be used to critically evaluate law and public policy. The course should prove useful for any student interested in analyzing policy issues. It will be particularly valuable background for those students intending to specialize in public economics and political economy.

Contents:

1. Tort law with one active party
2. Tort law with two or more active parties
3. Contracts
4. Contracts with two active parties
5. Criminal law
6. Property rights & the Coase Theorem
7. Intellectual property law



## 8. Constitutional law

Contact person: Prof. Galina Zudenkova, PhD, E-Mail: galina.zudenkova@gmail.com, L7, 3-5, Tel. 181-1782.

### **Social Security and Social Insurance**

|                         |                         |             |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Dienstag<br>L9, 1-2 003 | 08:30 Uhr bis 11:45 Uhr | wöchentlich | 02.09.2014 - 14.10.2014 |
| Mittwoch<br>L9, 1-2 003 | 08:30 Uhr bis 10:00 Uhr | wöchentlich | 03.09.2014 - 15.10.2014 |

#### 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. and practical exercises  
ECTS-Credits: 6

#### Course description:

The focus is on the state's role in providing social security and social insurance programs. We will mainly take a normative perspective, i.e. ask what an ideal state would do in order to achieve distributive objectives. 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:

Gruber, J., Public Finance and Public Policy, 2009 (3rd Edition), Worth Publishers.  
Stiglitz, J.E., Economics of the Public sector, 2000 (3rd Edition), Norton & Company.  
Hindriks, J and G. Myles, Intermediate Public Economics, 2006, MIT Press.  
Laffont, J.-J. and D. Martimort, The Theory of Incentives, Princeton University Press, 2002.  
Barr, N., Economics of the Welfare State, 2012 (5th edition), OUP Oxford.

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

## The Evolution of Financial Markets

|                             |                         |             |                         |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Dienstag<br>L7, 3-5 P 043   | 10:15 Uhr bis 11:45 Uhr | wöchentlich | 02.09.2014 - 02.12.2014 |
| Donnerstag<br>L7, 3-5 P 043 | 10:15 Uhr bis 11:45 Uhr | 14-täglich  | 04.09.2014 - 04.12.2014 |

### Kommentar:

Course title: The Evolution of Financial Markets

Instructor: Dr. Alexander Donges

Method (hours per week): lecture (2), exercise (1)

Course level: Bachelor

Course language: English

Prerequisites: Basic knowledge in econometrics (at the level of "Grundlagen der Ökonometrie") is required for the discussion of empirical research papers.

Examination: written exam (90 minutes) (70%) and oral presentation (30%).

ECTS-Credits: 6

### Course description:

This course examines the evolution of financial markets over the last 500 years. We analyze the emergence of the modern banking system and the creation of financial innovations. Beginning with the market for foreign bills of exchange in the Habsburg Netherlands of the 16th century, we consider markets for bonds, stocks and futures as well as important financial innovations of the late 20th century, e.g. mortgage-backed securities (MBS) and collateralized debt obligations (CDO).

The course comprises a lecture (2 hours a week) and a practical exercise session (1 hour a week). In the exercise session we discuss selected empirical research papers that focus on the history of financial markets and financial crises. Within the scope of the exercise session, every participant has to present and discuss one paper. The presentation accounts for 30 percent of the final grade. The relevant topics will be announced in August and assigned in the first week of the course. The presentations will start in the fifth week of the semester.

A detailed syllabus will be announced in August.

Contact person: Dr. Alexander Donges; phone: 181-3428; e-mail: [donges@uni-mannheim.de](mailto:donges@uni-mannheim.de); L7, 3-5, room S10.

## Seminars

### Applied Econometrics

Dienstag 13:45 Uhr bis 15:15 Uhr wöchentlich 02.09.2014 - 02.12.2014  
L7, 3-5 P 043

#### Kommentar:

Beschreibung: Die Studenten bearbeiten selbstständig ein empirisches Projekt, um sich mit der praktischen empirischen Arbeit inklusive der Interpretation von empirischen Ergebnissen vertraut zu machen. Aufbauend auf den Kenntnissen, die im Kurs „Grundlagen der Ökonometrie“ vermittelt wurden, sollen sich die Teilnehmer weitere notwendige ökonometrische Grundkenntnisse zu Modellklassen, Schätzverfahren und Tests aneignen, um eine empirische Fragestellung beantworten zu können. Die Themen werden sich auf das multiple Regressionsmodell für Querschnittsdaten sowie auf mikroökonomische, Panel-, und Zeitreihenmodelle beziehen, sodass die Teilnehmer durch ihr eigenes sowie die Projekte ihrer Kommilitonen einen umfassenden Überblick zu den diversen Modellklassen erhalten.

Die Teilnehmerzahl ist auf 14 begrenzt. Die Anmeldung erfolgt zusammen mit den anderen Blockseminaren zwischen dem 12. und 16. Mai 2014. Beachten Sie, dass eine erfolgreiche Teilnahme an den "Grundlagen der Ökonometrie" Voraussetzung für die Seminarteilnahme ist, jedoch nicht für die Seminaranmeldung im Mai 2014.

Details zu den Themen sowie dem Seminarablauf werden im Laufe der Sommerpause 2014 auf der Seminarwebseite veröffentlicht.

Please note that you have to register for this seminar within the common registration week: 12th May 2014 until 16th May 2014.

please register via e-Mail to: [trenkler@uni-mannheim.de](mailto:trenkler@uni-mannheim.de) (please include your grade from the lecture "Statistics II" in your registration e-Mail)

selection process of seminar participants: according to grade in Statistic II

maximum number of participants: 14

Course title: Applied Econometrics

Instructor: Prof. Dr. Carsten Trenkler

Offered: autumn term 2014

Method (hours per week): seminar (2)

Course level: Bachelor

Course language: German or English

Voraussetzung/Prerequisites: Grundlagen der Ökonometrie und Statistik I + II (Basic Econometrics and Statistics I + II)

Prüfung/Examination: Seminararbeit und Vorträge (seminar paper and presentations)

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 microeconomic, 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 between 12 and 16 May, jointly with the other seminars. Note that a successful exam in "Basic Econometrics" is a pre-requirement for participating in the seminar, nonetheless, for the enrolment in May 2014 it is not necessary.

Further details regarding the seminar topics and schedule will be posted on the seminar's webpage during the summer break 2014.

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

### **Biases in economic decision making**

|         |                         |              |            |
|---------|-------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Freitag | 10:15 Uhr bis 17:00 Uhr | Einzeltermin | 14.11.2014 |
| Freitag | 10:15 Uhr bis 17:00 Uhr | Einzeltermin | 21.11.2014 |

Kommentar:

Please note that you have to register for this block seminar within the common registration week: 12th May 2014 until 16th May 2014.

please follow the instructions on Prof. Orzen's website for the registration  
selection process of seminar participants: based on a first-come, first-serve policy  
maximum number of participants: 12

Course title: Biases in economic decision making

Instructor: Prof. Dr. Henrik Orzen

Offered: annually, fall term

Method (hours per week): block seminar (2)

Course level: Bachelor

Course language: English

Prerequisites: Microeconomics A+B

Examination: Seminar paper; seminar presentation; active participation in class

ECTS-Credits: 6

Course description:

Goals and contents of the module: This seminar introduces students to a range of empirical and experimental findings that indicate systematic biases in human decision making. While our brains can perform many complex tasks, there is evidence that humans tend to commit specific cognitive errors in certain types of situations. Sometimes, such evidence is debated controversially in the literature. Several topics from this area will be discussed in the seminar.

Expected competences acquired after completion of the module: By the end of the module participants will be able to demonstrate knowledge of particular behavioral biases in the context of individual choice and strategic decision making. Students will have a better understanding of where and how conventional assumptions in economics such as unlimited rationality and own-payoff maximization may fail. Furthermore, they will have improved their presentation and communications skills.

Contact details: Prof. Dr. Henrik Orzen, E-Mail: henrik.orzen@uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room 405, Tel. 181-1890.

### **Empirical Methods in Industrial Organization**

Freitag 15:30 Uhr bis 17:00 Uhr Einzeltermin 05.09.2014  
L7, 3-5 410

Kommentar:

The organizational meeting for the class is Friday, September 5, 2014 at 15:30.

Please note that you have to register for this block seminar within the common registration week: 12th May 2014 until 16th May 2014.

please register via e-Mail to: ashcherb@mail.uni-mannheim.de  
selection process of seminar participants: first-come-first-served  
maximum number of participants: 10

Course title: Empirical Methods in Industrial Organization  
Offered: Every Fall semester  
Instructor: Oleksandr Shcherbakov  
Method: block seminar (2)  
Course level: Bachelor  
Course language: English  
Prerequisites: Intermediate Microeconomics, Introduction to Econometrics  
Examination: Research review (50%) + Presentation (50%)  
ECTS: 6

Course description:

This course is intended to provide an introduction to empirical industrial organization (IO) and also familiarize students with research at the frontiers of the field. We will discuss in detail the model, research question, sources of identification and estimation methodology. Topics include estimation of production functions, models of collusion, differentiated product demand systems, entry/exit and strategic interactions, price discrimination, vertical relationships, technology adoption, and introduction into single agent dynamic optimization problems. Students are required to select one paper for presentation and another one for writing a research review (the guideline is provided at the organizational meeting). Each student has up to 30 minutes for presentation followed by a 20-minutes discussion.

Contact person: Oleksandr Shcherbakov, PhD, E-Mail: ashcherb@mail.uni-mannheim.de, L7, 3-5, room 313, Tel. 181-1838.

### **Empirics of Social Networks**

|         |                         |              |            |
|---------|-------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Freitag | 09:00 Uhr bis 12:00 Uhr | Einzeltermin | 05.09.2014 |
| Room:   | tba                     |              |            |
| Freitag | 09:00 Uhr bis 18:00 Uhr | Einzeltermin | 10.10.2014 |
| Samstag | 09:00 Uhr bis 18:00 Uhr | Einzeltermin | 11.10.2014 |

Kommentar

Registration period: 12.05.2014 - 16.05.2014

For registration please write an E-Mail to: g.zorell(at)uni-mannheim.de  
Selection process: first-come-first-serve  
Teilnehmerzahl: 15

Contact and Office Hours: Dr. Peri Saygin, L7, 3-5, Room 4.18, saygin(at)uni-mannheim.de  
Office hours: Thursday 09:00 – 11:00.

Course Title: Empirics of Social Networks

Instructor: Dr. Peri Saygin

Offered: in Fall 2014

Method: Block Seminar (2)

Course level: Bachelor

Course language: English

Examination: Seminar presentation (60%), presentation and discussion performance (10%), Written summary (30%).

ECTS-Credits: 6

Course description:

### **Course Overview and Objectives**

Over the past decades there has been a growing interest in understanding social networks as the “connectedness” of modern society became central in social, economic, and political contexts. Social networks play a key role in the transmission of information about job opportunities, and are critical to the trade of many goods and services. Social networks are also important in determining which products we buy, which languages we speak, how we vote, as well as how much education we obtain, and our likelihood of succeeding professionally. This course will focus on the role of social networks in economics. We will discuss economic theories that explain how social networks are important in economics and how econometrics is used to provide evidence for the significance of social networks.

### **Course Requirements**

Language: All literature references, presentations, and written reports will be ONLY in English.

At the introductory meeting, each student selects one of the suggested topics (below) and prepares a 30 minutes presentation based on the literature references and the material covered in the introduction.

In addition, each student selects a second topic for which she/he prepares a 5 minute discussion, based on a colleague’s presentation.

During the seminar blocks a time slot of 45 minutes is assigned to each topic to allow for general discussion as well.

Presentation slides have to be sent to Peri Saygin and the respective discussant of the presentation by October 8 at latest.

After the seminar each student hands in a written report of his/her topic summarizing the presentation and comments from the discussion (maximum 5 pages).

### **Program:**

Introduction: Peri Saygin

How do economists think about networks? Social Network Theory and It’s Applications in Economics  
Matthew O. Jackson (2008): Social and Economic Networks (Princeton University Press), Background and Fundamentals of Network Analysis.

List of Topics with literature references

There are 6 main topics as listed below. A literature reference (which will be provided by the instructor) will be assigned to seminar participants in the first seminar unit.

1. Networks in Economics: Networked Markets
2. Social Networks in Labor Markets
3. Social Networks in Education
4. Networks of Immigrants
5. Information Flow in Networks
6. Herding/Cascading Behavior/Institutions and Aggregate Behavior

Contact person: Dr. Peri Saygin, L7, 3-5, Room 4.18, saygin(at)uni-mannheim.de, Office hours:

Thursday 09:00 – 11:00,

Secretary: Gabriele Zorell, L7, 3-5, Room 4.01, g.zorell(at)uni-mannheim.de

## **International Taxation**

Termine: tba

Kommentar:

Registration period for the seminars in fall term: 12th May 2014 until 16th May 2014  
Please write an e-Mail for the registration to Mathias Dolls (dolls@zew.de)  
Selection process for the seminar participants (maximum of 12 students): first come first serve  
Please note that a successful exam in "Finanzwissenschaft" is a pre-requirement for participating in the seminar, nonetheless, for the enrolment in May 2014 it is not necessary.

Time and date for the organizational meeting and the actual block seminar will be announced later.

Course title: International Taxation  
Instructor(s): Prof. Dr. Clemens Fuest, Dr. Mathias Dolls, Philipp Dörrenberg  
Offered: Winter semester 2014, irregular cycle  
Method (hours per week): block seminar (2)  
Course level: Bachelor  
Course language: English  
Prerequisites: Finanzwissenschaft  
Examination: seminar paper + oral presentation  
ECTS-Credits: 6

Course description:

This course examines various issues in international taxation and the role of the government in a globalized economy. Topics for term papers include corporate taxation, international taxation and tax competition, taxation of the financial sector, and globalization and the size of the government sector.

The seminar is targeted at advanced Bachelor students who have completed the compulsory course Finanzwissenschaft. Students will be assigned a research paper which is the basis for the term paper. Term papers will be presented in a block seminar.

Contact person(s): Dr. Mathias Dolls, Tel. +49 (0)621 1235-395, E-mail: dolls@zew.de, L7, 1, room 490, n.V.

## **Public Economics**

Freitag 17:00 Uhr bis 19:00 Uhr Einzeltermin 05.09.2014  
Room: tba

Kommentar:

Organizational meeting: Friday 05.09., 17:00 - 19:00

Please note that you have to register for this block seminar within the common registration week: 12th May 2014 until 16th May 2014.

please register via e-Mail to: pierre.boyer@uni-mannheim.de  
selection process of seminar participants: first come first serve  
maximum number of participants: 10

Course title: Public Economics  
Instructor: Prof. Pierre Boyer, Ph.D.

Offered: fall 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:**

This bloc seminar's objective is to introduce the participants to the recent literature in Public Economics, in particular different issues on optimal income taxation and transfers programs, and tax evasion. Seminar participants are responsible for one presentation. Students will also have to write a short report (max 10 pages) evaluating the paper they have presented. Grades will be based on the seminar presentations and the report (50% each).

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

**Seminar in energy policy: The German renewable energy act**

Termine: tba

**Kommentar**

Die im Seminar zu erbringende Leistung besteht aus einem eigenen Seminarvortrag (in der Regel über eine wissenschaftliche Arbeit) mit Diskussion des eigenen Vortrages, den Präsentationsfolien, einem kurzen Papier (Beschreibung der Hauptergebnisse, abzugeben am Tag des Seminarvortrags) und der Teilnahme an den Diskussionen der Vorträge von Kommilitonen/Kommilitoninnen. Die Teilnahme an allen Blockterminen ist Voraussetzung für den Leistungsnachweis. Auf die Teilnahme an einzelnen Terminen kann nur bei wichtigen Gründen verzichtet werden.

Please note that you have to register for this block seminar within the common registration week: 12th May 2014 until 16th May 2014.

please register via e-Mail to: secretary (lswipol@vwl.uni-mannheim.de)  
selection process of seminar participants: first come first serve  
maximum number of participants: 9

Course title: Seminar in energy policy: The German renewable energy act  
Instructor(s): Dr. Philipp Zahn  
Offered: HWS 2014  
Method: block seminar (2)  
Course level: Bachelor  
Course language: Englisch  
Prerequisites: Grundlagenbereich  
Examination: Presentation, Seminar Paper  
ECTS-Credits: 6

**Course description:**

In this seminar we will discuss various topics of green energy policies with a focus on the German Renewable Energy Act.

Each student will present a recent research or policy paper. Grading is based on presentation, seminar paper, and active participation in discussions.

The first introductory meeting will take place on (tba) where a brief outline of topics is provided. Student presentations will be held en bloque in the 7th or 8th week of the semester.



If interested in the seminar please email to [lswipol@uni-mannheim.de](mailto:lswipol@uni-mannheim.de) to register within the common registration week (12th May - 16th May 2014). Details on topics will be sent around by August 25th. The assignment of topics will then be discussed in the first initial meeting.

Contact person(s): Dr. Philipp Zahn, Tel. 181-1887, L7, 3-5, room 2-04, E-mail: [pzahn@rumms.uni-mannheim.de](mailto:pzahn@rumms.uni-mannheim.de)

### **Seminar on Social and Economic Networks**

Freitag 15:30 Uhr bis 17:00 Uhr wöchentlich 05.09.2014 - 19.09.2014  
L7, 3-5 P 043

#### **Kommentar:**

Introductory meetings: 5th September until 19th September 2014, Friday, 15:30 - 17:00  
Block seminar: tba (probably end of November)

Please note that you have to register for this block seminar within the common registration week: 12th May 2014 until 16th May 2014.

please register via e-Mail to: [siedlarek@uni-mannheim.de](mailto:siedlarek@uni-mannheim.de)  
selection process of seminar participants: first come first serve, subject to prerequisites  
maximum number of participants: 16

Course title: Seminar on Social and Economic Networks  
Instructors: Dr. Jan-Peter Siedlarek, Prof. Dr. Volker Nocke  
Offered: Fall Semester 2014  
Method: block seminar (2)  
Course level: Bachelor  
Course language: English  
Prerequisites: Microeconomics B  
Recommended: Game Theory and Basic Econometrics  
Examination: Presentation, Seminar Paper  
ECTS-Credits: 6

#### **Course description:**

The course provides an introduction to the study of social and economic networks, a relatively new and very active field of economic research with a distinct interdisciplinary outlook. We discuss various social and economic networks and techniques to analyse them. The course further covers basic models of network formation and the implications of network structure on economic activity, such as the spread of information in networks and the functioning of networked markets.

#### **Textbooks:**

Jackson, M. (2008). Social and economic networks.  
Goyal, S. (2009). Connections: an introduction to the economics of networks  
Easley, D. and J. Kleinberg (2010). Networks, crowds, and markets.

#### **Background reading:**

Watts, D. (2004). Six Degrees: The Science of a Connected Age.  
Barabasi, A. (2003). Linked: How Everything Is Connected to Everything Else and What It Means for Business, Science, and Everyday Life.

Contact person: Dr. Jan-Peter Siedlarek, E-Mail: [siedlarek@uni-mannheim.de](mailto:siedlarek@uni-mannheim.de), L7, 3-5 room 301, Tel. 181-1911.

## C. Other courses for economists

### **Forschungsseminar in Wirtschaftsgeschichte**

Mittwoch 17:15 Uhr bis 18:45 Uhr wöchentlich 03.09.2014 - 01.12.2014  
L7, 3-5 P 043

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 Abt. VWL auch Absolventen geschichtswissenschaftlicher Studiengänge teilnehmen.

Course title: Economic History Research Seminar

Offered: every Semester

Method (hours per week): seminar (2)

Course level: Bachelor, Master, Ph.D.

Course language: 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: Prof. Dr. Jochen Streb, Tel.: 181-1932, E-Mail: [streb@uni-mannheim.de](mailto:streb@uni-mannheim.de); L7,3-5, P19/20

### **Courses offered by the University library**

#### **Business Studies & Economics: Library Basics**

Dates: Tuesday, 16.09.14, 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.

Business Studies: Irene Schumm, email: irene.schumm@bib.uni-mannheim.de, phone: 0621/181-2754.

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, 18.09.14, 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.

Business Studies: Irene Schumm, email: irene.schumm@bib.uni-mannheim.de, phone: 0621/181-2754.

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.