

**Arab-German Joint Program on
Behavioral and Experimental Economics
With a Special Course on Text-Mining
Summer School Program 2020**

(Due to COVID-19 and the subsequent adjustments in participating universities calendars, the Summer School program now runs from 20th July – 12th August)

20th – 24th July: BEHAVIORAL LAW AND ECONOMICS

PROF. EVA VAN DER ZEE, HAMBURG UNIVERSITY

This course provides an advanced survey and discussion of a number of current topics and debates in behavioral law and economics. We will read and analyze recent scholarly contributions by legal scholars and behavioral scientists. The aim is threefold. First, students will become familiar with the basic notions in behavioral law and economics. Second, students will learn to analyze law through the lens of behavioral science. Third, students will improve their understanding of scholarly contributions by legal scholars, behavioral economists, and behavioral scientists. Example topics include the interaction between standard setting and international and EU law, how to incorporate behavioral science in legal interpretation and application, and the role of the freedom of expression in the disclosure paradigm.

Eva van der Zee is a Junior professor (tenure track) at Hamburg University. Her research focus is at the intersection of international/EU law and behavioral science. She conducted her Ph.D. at Wageningen University, New York University, and the European University Institute on how sustainability labels on food products are governed by public and private regulatory systems, and how these regulatory systems could be improved using insights from behavioral science. After her Ph.D. she worked as a postdoctoral researcher at Wageningen University where she examined the role of trust and contractual relations for the resilience of agricultural production systems. Her work has been published in the Journal of World Trade, Sustainability, European Business Law Review, Legal Issues of Economic Integration, European Food and Feed Law, European Company Law, Journal of European Consumer and Market Law, and International and Comparative Corporate Law Journal.

Zoom Meeting One (20 minutes): Monday, 20th July, 12:00 pm GMT+2
Assignment One Due Date: 24th July, 10:00 pm GMT+2

27th – 31st July: Cultural ECONOMICS

PROF. ANASTASIA LITINA, UNIVERSITY OF IOANNINA

The aim of the course is three-fold: First, it aims to expose students to a novel field of economics, i.e., cultural economics. We will identify the factors beyond the standard economic ones that cast a long-shadow on current economic outcomes. Topics include the role of geography, religion, diversities, trust, inequality, family ties, institutions and other topics. The second objective is to familiarize students with the process of “reading” and comprehending a research paper. We will learn how a paper is structured, how we isolate the main research question, how to interpret its findings of and how to start uncover the associated mechanisms. The third objective is to expose the recent wealth of historical and cultural data that are nowadays abundant and that allow for the study of diverse topics. We will go through a list of individual-level and macro-level data. A list of sources will be illustrated and we will see how we can work with online modules to obtain in a simple way data that can support any presentation or brief policy report. This data can be used for any purpose beyond research to highlight and uncover the impact of culture on modern economies. We will be exposed to several layers of analysis, i.e., we will study the impact of culture on individuals, firms and even countries.

Anastasia Litina is a Lecturer at the University of Ioannina and will be moving to the University of Macedonia in Thessaloniki, Greece as an assistant professor. She is also an Extramural Research Fellow at the University of Luxembourg. She received her Ph.D. in Economics at the University of Macedonia, visited Brown University for a semester and worked at the University of Luxembourg prior to her employment in Greece. Her research interests include a theoretical and empirical exploration of the long-run determinants of growth and the implications of culture for socio-economic outcomes. Her work has been published in the Journal of Economic Growth, Harvard Business Review, World Development, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, and others. She is currently ranked among the top 5% of female economists according to IDEAS and top 8% among male and female economists (based on publications of the last 10 years).

Zoom Meeting Two (One hour): Friday, 31st July, 12:00 pm GMT+2

Assignment Two Due Date: 31st July, 10:00 pm GMT+2

3rd – 7th August: Experimental ECONOMICS

PROF. ANDREAS NICKLISCH, UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES IN CHUR

This course aims to provide a general idea on the experimental economics approach and teaches participants how to program experiments on Ztree. Ztree is a special software developed by Urs Fischbacher, University of Zurich, and has been widely popular among experimental economists; especially if the games are interactive. The course will provide participants with all the basic skills needed to be able to use the software for their own experiments.

Andreas Nicklisch is a Professor at the Centre for Economic Policy Research, University of Applied Sciences, Chur, Switzerland. Before moving to Switzerland, Andreas worked as an Assistant Professor at the University of Hamburg, and as a senior research at the Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods. Andreas has been publishing extensively using economic games for research on public policy analysis and taxation, refugees, decentralization, and governance.

Zoom Meeting Three (20 minutes): Monday, 3rd August, 12:00 pm GMT+2

Assignment Three Due Date: 7th August, 10:00 pm GMT+2

Zoom Meeting Four (Two hours): Wednesday, 12th August, 10:00 am GMT+2

Zoom Meeting Five (30 minutes): Wednesday, 12th August, 1:00 pm GMT+2

10th – 11th August: Introduction to R and Text Mining

MR. MAX MANTEI, HAMBURG UNIVERSITY

This course will teach participants the basics of R and programming in R. It will teach how we can use R to work with data using the powerful tidyverse ecosystem. Participants will learn how to plot data with the ggplot2 library. Finally, we will cover the basics of text mining and working with text data in R using the tidytext package. This course is concise and we will not have the time to cover any advanced Machine Learning or Natural Language Processing. However, after this course participants should be able to start their own test-data driven projects.

Max Mantei did his B.A. in Political Science and Economics at the University of Bremen (Germany) and Aarhus University (Denmark). After that he received his M.Sc. in Politics, Economics, and Philosophy from the University of Hamburg (Germany) and began his Ph.D. at the Graduate School for the Economic Analysis of the Internationalization of the Law at the Institute of Law and Economics at Hamburg University. Throughout his studies, he had several research assistant roles and worked as a freelancer doing data analysis for local businesses. Max has been using R since 2011, but also enjoy programming in Python. His main interests are Bayesian Statistics and Machine Learning/Deep Learning.

Assignment Four Due Date: 10th August, 10:00 pm GMT+2

Assignment Five Due Date: 11th August, 10:00 pm GMT+2

Zoom Meeting Five (Two hours): Wednesday, 12th August, 2:00 pm GMT+2