ONLINE Summer School in Law & Economics 2021

Universität Hamburg
June 21 – July 23

Institute of Law and Economics
This course presents a selection of research exploring the consequences of political institutions. Such institutions are “the rules of the political game”, which both enable and constrain political life. The course is organized on the basis of these eleven consequences: satisfaction of the public interest, growth and development, government size, taxation, property rights, environmental protection, life satisfaction and voter satisfaction, personal freedom, female empowerment, integration, income inequality.

Among the political institutions affecting these are: democracy, direct democracy, democratic capital, the electoral system, the form of government, checks and balances, gender quotas, fiscal rules, the size of the legislature and voting rules concerning who gets to vote and how votes should be translated into outcomes.

In addition to six lectures on the consequences listed above, in which it is explained how various political institutions are related to them, there is an introductory lecture presenting the main concepts and a concluding lecture focusing on whether institutions can and do change, as well as two colloquia during which the participants discuss the readings.

The purpose of the course is to stimulate an interest in political institutions as a research program by showing that they matter for outcomes we care about.

Niclas Berggren is Associate Professor of Economics at the Research Institute of Industrial Economics (IFN), where he is the director for the research program Institutions, Markets and Enterprise. He is also at the Department of Economics at the Prague University of Economics and Business. His work has been published in Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, Journal of Institutional Economics, Journal of Public Economics, European Journal of Political Economy, Public Choice, Kyklos, Journal of Comparative Economics, and others.
This course focuses on the relationship between the Islamic legal tradition and international law. We will examine the broad similarities and differences between these two legal systems, focusing in particular on the issue of peaceful resolution of disputes. In many Islamic law states (ILS), Islamic law displaces secular law in state governance and shapes these countries’ international dealings. Indeed, some ILS readily use international courts and arbitration tribunals, while other avoid them. Why? This course delves into the intricate legal structure of Islamic law states focusing on their constitutions and the sub-constitutional legal system. We will examine ILS’ preferences toward the International Court of Justice, mediation, arbitration, and conciliation. We will study the nexus of Islamic and international notions of territorial sovereignty, peaceful resolution, rule of law, and justice.

Emilia Justyna Powell is an Associate Professor of Political Science and concurrent Associate Professor of Law at the University of Notre Dame. She specializes in international law, international courts, international dispute resolution, comparative international law, the Islamic legal tradition, Islamic international law, and Islamic constitutionalism. She received legal education at the University of Nicholas Copernicus (Poland), Jean Monnet Center for European Studies, and the University of Cambridge. She had conducted her Ph.D. at Florida State University. Her prominent publications include a book published in Oxford University Press (2020) entitled Islamic Law and International Law: Peaceful Resolution of Disputes, a Cambridge University Press (2011) book, Domestic Law Goes Global: Legal Traditions and International Courts (with Sara McLaughlin Mitchell), and many articles in top political science academic journals as well as law journals such as International Organization, Journal of Politics, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Law and Contemporary Problems, Yearbook of Arab Association of Constitutional Law, etc. She has been a fellow at the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, and at the University of Copenhagen Law School, icourts Centre for International Courts.
This course will discuss the standard topics in comparative judicial politics (such as the role of judges and lawyers in the legal system, impact and legitimacy of courts, rule of law, judicial independence, globalization of constitutional review, populism and courts, courts in authoritarian regimes) from the lens of economics. We will also consider the rising of behavioral comparative judicial politics and the importance of empirical legal studies in this area of study.

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, cognitive scientists, and behavioral economists. The aim is threefold:

I. Students will become familiar with the basic notions in behavioral law and economics.
II. Students will learn to analyze law through the lens of behavioral science.
III. Students will improve their understanding of scholarly contributions by legal scholars, behavioral economists, and psychologists.

Example topics include how to incorporate insights from cognitive science and behavioral economics in legal interpretation and application, the methodological and normative limitations of including behavioral law and economics, the current role of cognitive science and behavioral economics in legal analysis and avenues for further research.

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.
Applications

The Summer School provides a seminar atmosphere with groups not larger than 25 participants. Therefore, the number of places for each course is limited. The courses are free of charge and open to doctoral researchers only. Doctoral researchers can apply for the whole Summer School as well as for one or some courses in the program. To apply, please send your course preferences including a short description on how this relates to your research and a CV to Betül Simsek, betuel.simsek@ile-hamburg.de by May 10th. Acceptance will be communicated by May 14th.

Online Participation

The courses will be streamed online via the platform zoom. Participants will receive the zoom invitation close to the start of each course. Reading materials will be made accessible free of charge online.

Contact

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European Doctorate in Law and Economics

The European Doctorate in Law & Economics is one of the largest doctorate programs in the field of Law and Economics. It is a joint doctoral program by four of the leading European universities: the Universities of Bologna, Hamburg, Rennes 1 and Rotterdam. The stipend-based program aims at addressing a new class of outstanding PhD researchers from all over the world.

The EDLE is sponsored by the DAAD. In Hamburg, the program is chaired by Prof. Dr. Stefan Voigt.

For more information, please visit

www.edle-phd.eu