Summer School in Law & Economics 2022

University of Hamburg
June 7th – July 1st

Institute of Law and Economics
BEHAVIORAL LAW AND ECONOMICS

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.
This course introduces the students to a selection of topics within public choice and political economy, and the application of the unique methodology of public choice to questions within law and economics. It does so through five lectures and four exercises.

The course is structured around five lectures and five problem and discussion sessions. The first of these focuses on public choice methodology, including diagnosing market and government failures, collective action problems, and logrolling. Subsequent lectures deal with rent-seeking and corruption, constitutional political economy, bureaucracy and regime transitions, and epistemological problems in law and policy-making.

Christian Bjørnskov is a Professor of Economics at Aarhus University in Denmark and Affiliated Researcher with the Research Institute of Industrial Economics in Stockholm. His research spans a number of topics within the intersection of political economy, political science and law and economics, including the consequences of constitutionalized rights, illegal regime transitions, the historical roots of political institutions, and the importance of informal institutions to the de facto quality of formal institutions. His research has been published in journals such as American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Public Choice, Journal of Development Economics and Academy of Management Perspectives.
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 an Assistant Professor at the University of Macedonia in Thessaloniki, Greece. 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, Einaudia Institute and worked at the University of Luxembourg as a post-doctoral researcher 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, Journal of Development Economics, Harvard Business Review, World Development, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, and others. She is currently ranked among the top 2% of female economists according to IDEAS and top 5% among male and female economists (based on publications of the last 10 years).
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 summerschool@ile-hamburg.de by May 15.

Materials and Housing

Reading materials will be made accessible free of charge online. Please note that the University of Hamburg cannot assist participants in finding accommodation and financial support to attend the Summer School.

For updates on times and venues, please visit www.ile-hamburg.de

UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE, COURSES WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAMBURG SEMINAR ROOM 1083A, VON-MELLE-PARK 5

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