



## Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2018

### 10,421: Workshop and Lecture Series in Experimental Research

ECTS credits: 4

#### Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - Written examination (80%)

Decentral - Active participation (20%)

#### Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[10,421,1.00 Workshop and Lecture Series in Experimental Research](#) -- Englisch -- [de Bellis Emanuel](#)

#### Course information

#### Course prerequisites

Doctoral students who plan to take this course as an *optional* course and *without an examination* should not register via the bidding system. They should register directly with the lecturer.

Doctoral students who plan to take this course as a *regular* course or as an *optional* course *with an examination* should register via the bidding system. Enrolment in a course is binding: students have to attend the course and take the exam. The grade will be shown on the scorecard.

#### Course content

The aim of the doctoral program "Methods in Experimental Research" (MER) is to build up and further develop the increasingly important methodological competence of doctoral students regarding the organization, implementation, and analysis of experiments on human behavior. MER is aimed at doctoral students who wish to establish causality in their research and for which a pure correlational analysis is not sufficient. The experimental method represents an advanced approach to scientific work. MER therefore requires that doctoral students have a basic understanding of the scientific method. Nevertheless, MER is a program that supports interested doctoral students of all disciplines in mastering the introduction into the experimental method of behavioral research and to further develop this methodological competence.

MER consists of two successive courses/modules taking place in the fall and spring semester, respectively. Module 2, "Workshop and Lecture Series in Experimental Research," provides doctoral students with the opportunity to extend their knowledge about behavioral/experimental research. The focus is on building doctoral students' competencies to critically evaluate an experimental design in their field of research, on learning about experimental conventions and practices in other fields of research, and on getting an introduction to coding behavioral experiments with oTree, an open-source platform for behavioral research ([www.otree.org](http://www.otree.org)).

Through a combination of lecture series and a one-week coding workshop doctoral students are introduced to behavioral/experimental research in five different fields of research, provided with the basics for coding oTree experiments, and given the opportunity to program their own experiment in oTree.



After completing Module 2 doctoral students can further improve their training in experimental research methods by:

- signing up for Prof. Gerald Häubl's course "Experimental Design for Behavioral Science" through the regular HSG enrolment process or at the upcoming GSERM ([www.gserm.ch](http://www.gserm.ch))
- visiting Module 1 of the MER in the fall semester ("Basics in Experimental Research")

## **Meeting 1: Behavioral/Experimental Research in Economics**

Prof. Dr. Urs Fischbacher, Chair of Applied Research in Economics, University of Konstanz

<https://www.wiwi.uni-konstanz.de/fischbacher/members/urs-fischbacher/>

## **Meeting 2: Behavioral/Experimental Research in Political Science/International Relations**

Prof. Rose McDermott, Ph.D., David and Marianna University Professor of International Relations, Brown University

<http://watson.brown.edu/people/faculty/mcdermott>

Prof. James Davis, Ph.D., Director of the Institute for Political Science at the University of St. Gallen and Professor for Political Science with special focus on international politics, University of St.Gallen

<https://ipw.unisg.ch/de/personenverzeichnis/0fe8ba8a-889a-4bc6-80a1-de98b94a1f07>

## **Meeting 3: Behavioral/Experimental Research in Banking and Finance**

Prof. Dr. Martin Brown, Full Professor of Banking, University of St.Gallen

[https://sbf.unisg.ch/en/lehrstuehle/lehrstuhl\\_brown/homepage\\_brow](https://sbf.unisg.ch/en/lehrstuehle/lehrstuhl_brown/homepage_brow)

## **Meeting 4: Behavioral/Experimental Research in Law and Economics**

Prof. Dr. Christoph Engel, Chair for Experimental Law and Economics, Erasmus University Law School, and Executive Director Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods

<http://www.coll.mpg.de/engel.html>

## **Meeting 5: Behavioral/Experimental Research in Marketing**

Prof. Dr. Emanuel de Bellis, Assistant Professor at Institute for Customer Insight, University of St.Gallen

<https://www.alexandria.unisg.ch/persons/4948>

## **Workshop: Introduction to Programming Behavioral Experiments with oTree**

Dr. Philipp Chapkovski, Postdoctoral Researcher, Institute of Sociology, University of Zurich

<https://www.uzh.ch/cmsssl/suz/en/institute/professors/rauhut/team/chapkovs.html>



## Course structure

lecture series and a one-week coding workshop

## Course literature

It is recommended that participants are familiar with:

Webster, M., & Sell, J. (2014), Laboratory Experiments in the Social Sciences, Academic Press.

Participants do not need to be familiar with programming languages or coding in general to successfully master the one-week coding workshop for oTree.

Optional tutorial regarding python programming:<http://otree.readthedocs.io/en/latest/python.html>

Additional material may be provided by the individual lecturers.

## Additional course information

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## Examination information

### Examination sub part/s

#### 1. Examination sub part (1/2)

##### Examination time and form

Decentral - Written examination (80%)

##### Remark

oTree Project/Experiment

##### Examination-aid rule

Open Book

Students are free to choose aids but will have to comply with the following restrictions:

- At such examinations, all the pocket calculators of the Texas Instruments **TI-30 series** are admissible. Any other pocket calculator models are inadmissible.
- In addition, any type of communication, as well as any electronic devices that can be programmed and are capable of communication such as electronic dictionaries, notebooks, tablets, PDAs, mobile telephones and others, are inadmissible.
- Students are themselves responsible for the procurement of examination aids.

##### Supplementary aids

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## Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

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## 2. Examination sub part (2/2)

### Examination time and form

Decentral - Active participation (20%)

### Remark

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### Examination-aid rule

Practical examination

No examination-aid rule is necessary for such examination types. The rules and regulations of the University of St. Gallen apply in a subsidiary fashion.

### Supplementary aids

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## Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

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## Examination content

Doctoral students are expected to actively participate in all lectures and in the one-week workshop, and to be prepared accordingly. In addition to the active participation, doctoral students are required to work on and to develop an oTree project/experiment (individually or in groups) during the one-week workshop.

## Examination relevant literature

NA



### Please note

We would like to point out to you that this fact sheet has absolute priority over other information such as StudyNet, faculty members' personal databases, information provided in lectures, etc.

When will the fact sheets become binding?

- Information about courses and examination time (central/decentral and grading form): from the start of the bidding process on 25 January 2018
- Information about decentral examinations (examination-aid rule, examination content, examination relevant literature): after the 4th semester week on 19 March 2018
- Information about central examinations (examination-aid rule, examination content, examination relevant literature): from the start of the enrolment period for the examinations on 09 April 2018

Please look at the fact sheet once more after these deadlines have expired.