



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2020

10,380: Labor Markets, Immigration and the Welfare State

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - Presentation (individual) (40%)

Decentral - Presentation (individual) (40%)

Decentral - Active participation (20%)

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[10,380,1.00 Labor Markets, Immigration and the Welfare State](#) -- Englisch -- [Zweimüller Josef](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

Advanced knowledge in microeconomics, macroeconomics and empirical methods in economics.

Learning objectives

The goal is to make students familiar with the state of research in the area of labor markets, welfare state programs and immigration; to discuss methodological approaches and conceptual issues in that literature as well as possible areas for future research.

Course content

One of the most important topics in the policy debates are the necessary reforms to welfare state programs. The course will discuss recent approaches how welfare state programs affect labor market outcomes and social welfare. An active literature discusses this question in the context of the major welfare state programs: unemployment insurance, disability insurance, old-age social insurance, family policies. The course will give an overview of the state of the art in this literature and discuss possible directions for future research. The second part of the course will discuss recent influential papers on the impact of immigration on the labor market.

Course structure

PART I: Labor markets and the welfare state

The search for jobs and workers

1. Job search theory
 1. Job search theory
 2. The DMP model
 3. Empirical evidence
2. UI and the labor market
 1. UI and unemployment durations
 2. Optimal UI (the Baily-Chetty formula)
 3. UI and post-unemployment outcomes
 4. The macroeconomics of UI: search externalities, wage effects



3. Disability insurance (DI) and labor supply
 1. Optimal DI and entry into DI
 2. The effect of DI on labor supply
4. Old-age social insurance and retirement behavior
 1. The welfare effects of pension reforms
 2. Empirical evidence

PART II: The effect of immigration on host countries

Immigration and the labor market: First-generation literature (Borjas, Card, ...)

Recent approaches

1.
 1. Immigration policies and labor market effects on natives
 2. Integration of immigrants into host country labor markets

2. Beyond labor market outcomes
 1. Immigration and voting behavior

...

Course literature

Slides to the lectures, References to related published papers will be given at the beginning of the course.

Additional course information

This is a course for PhD students. It should be open to anyone who wants to attend, and who has had advanced knowledge in micro macro and empirical economics.

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.

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.

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Presentation (individual) (40%)

Remark

Presentation of an assigned paper

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

2. Examination sub part (2/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Presentation (individual) (40%)

Remark

Presentation of research-idea

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

3. Examination sub part (3/3)

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

Examination content

- UI, labor market outcomes and welfare
- DI and labor supply
- Pension reforms
- Family policies
- Immigration and the labor market of host countries



- Immigration and voting behaviour

There are two individual presentations:

- presentation of an assigned paper (40%)
- presentation of research-idea on a topic broadly related to the topics covered in the course (40%)

Examination relevant literature

- Slides
- Relevant recent papers on the various covered topics, references are given in class.

Please note

Please note that this fact sheet alone is binding and has priority over any other information such as StudyNet (Canvas), personal databases or faculty members' websites and information provided in their lectures, etc.

Any possible references and links within the fact sheet to information provided by third parties are merely supplementary and informative in nature and are outside the University of St.Gallen's scope of responsibility and guarantee.

Documents and materials that have been submitted no later than the end of term time (CW21) are relevant to central examinations.

Binding nature of the fact sheet:

- Information about courses and examination time (central/decentral) and examination type starting from the beginning of the bidding on 23 January 2020
- Information about examinations (examination aid regulations, examination content, examination-relevant literature) for decentral examinations after the 4th semester week on 16 March 2020
- Information about examinations (examination aid regulations, examination content, examination-relevant literature) for central examinations as from the starting date for examination registration on 6 April 2020

Please consult the fact sheet again after these deadlines have expired.