



## Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2022

### 8,266: Economics in Practice

ECTS credits: 4

#### Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - examination paper written at home (in groups - all given the same grades) (70%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (30%)

Examination time: term time

#### Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[8.266.1.00 Economics in Practice](#) -- Englisch -- [Matter Ulrich](#) , [Lechner Michael](#) , [Föllmi Reto](#) , [Rinaldo Angelo](#) , [Knaus Michael](#) , [Bühler Stefan](#)

#### Course information

#### Course prerequisites

This course aims at MEcon and MiQE/F students. A solid background in micro, macro, and econometrics is required.

#### Learning objectives

In this course, students learn how to

1. organize themselves into effective project teams,
2. apply economic analysis to real-world problems,
3. produce a concise project report about their work, and
4. present their results in a plenary session.

#### Course content

Students in economics master programs acquire powerful analytical skills, but often miss the opportunity to apply economic analysis to interesting real-world problems. This course offers students in our MEcon and MiQE/F programs the opportunity to gain first-hand experience in applying (both theoretical and empirical) economic analysis to challenging real-world projects, which are proposed by members of the HSG Alumni Economists Club. Students work in groups on one of six real-world projects and are supervised by a faculty member and the HSG Alumna/Alumnus who proposed the project.

#### Tentative List of Project Fields and Supervision Teams

##### 1. Competition Policy

Alumni: Dr. Niklaus Wallimann, Secretariat of the Swiss Competition Commission (Chief Economist)

HSG Faculty: Prof. Stefan Bühler

##### 2. Inflation & Financial Markets

Alumni: Dr. Adriel Jost, WPuls AG (Partner & CEO)

HSG Faculty: Prof. Reto Föllmi



### 3. Foreign Exchange

Alumni: Dr. Barbara Stahel, SNB (Head Team FX Analysis)

HSG Faculty: Prof. Angelo Ranaldo

### 4. Pricing & Sales Optimization

Alumni: Dr. Berit Gerritzen, Deloitte (Director)

HSG Faculty: Prof. Michael Knaus

### 5. Data Science

Alumni: Dr. Massimo Mannino, Novalytica (Co-Founder & Partner)

HSG Faculty: Prof. Michael Lechner

### 6. Infrastructure Regulation

Alumni: Dr. Jürg Müller, Avenir Suisse (Senior Fellow)

HSG Faculty: Prof. Ulrich Matter

## Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

The course consists of three parts:

1. Kickoff meeting at the beginning of the semester
2. Groups (ideally composed of 3-4 students) working on their projects under the guidance of the supervision teams
3. Presentations of the projects held during the plenary session at the end of the semester

We will have a kickoff meeting at the beginning of the semester and a plenary session at the end of the semester. In the kickoff meeting, the various projects and supervisor teams will be presented. Thereafter, the students will decide which project to take on. Most of the work will be done by the respective project groups, under the guidance of the supervision teams. Towards the end of the semester, each group submits a project report and makes a presentation in the plenary session.

## Course literature

There is no mandatory reading for this class. Students work "free style" on their projects, using any literature and materials that they find helpful.

## Additional course information

At present both the kick-off meeting as well as the plenary session - including the group presentations - are planned to take place on campus.

In the case of the President's Board having to implement new directives due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in SpS2022, the course information above will be changed as follows:

- The kick-off meeting as well as the plenary session are conducted online via Zoom;
- The recordings of the course are available for 30 days;
- The lecturer informs via Canvas on the changed implementation modalities of the course.

The examination information listed below would be changed as follows:

- The group presentations are conducted online and are being recorded.

## Examination information



## Examination sub part/s

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

#### Examination time and form

Decentral - examination paper written at home (in groups - all given the same grades) (70%)

Examination time: term time

#### Remark

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#### Examination-aid rule

Term papers

Written work must be written without outside help according to the known citation standards, and a declaration of authorship must be attached, which is available as a template on the StudentWeb.

Documentation (quotations, bibliography, etc.) must be carried out universally and consistently according to the requirements of the chosen/specified citation standard such as e.g. APA or MLA.

The legal standard is recommended for legal work (cf. by way of example: FORSTMOSER, P., OGOREK R., SCHINDLER B., Juristisches Arbeiten: Eine Anleitung für Studierende (the latest edition in each case), or according to the recommendations of the Law School).

The reference sources of information (paraphrases, quotations, etc.) that has been taken over literally or in the sense of the original text must be integrated into the text in accordance with the requirements of the citation standard used. Informative and bibliographical notes must be included as footnotes (recommendations and standards e.g. in METZGER, C., Lern- und Arbeitsstrategien (latest edition)).

For all written work at the University of St.Gallen, the indication of page numbers is mandatory, regardless of the standard chosen. Where page numbers are missing in sources, the precise designation must be made differently: chapter or section title, section number, article, etc.

#### 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 - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (30%)

Examination time: term time

#### 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

Students are expected to work in groups on one of the six real-world projects proposed by the supervisor teams consisting of one HSG faculty member and one HSG Alumna/Alumnus. The project report accounts for 70% of the grade. In addition, students are expected to present their results during the plenary session. The presentation accounts for the remaining 30% of the final grade.

The projects focus on one of the following topics:

1. Competition Policy
2. Inflation & Financial Markets
3. Foreign Exchange
4. Pricing & Sales Optimization
5. Data Science
6. Infrastructure Regulation

## Examination relevant literature

To understand the project assigned, students are required to perform literature research on their own.

### Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW21) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 12 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 04 (Thursday, 27 January 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 21 March 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 21 March 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the registration period in CW 15 (Monday, 11 April 2022).