



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2020

7,376: The Future of Work

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - Active participation (20%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (40%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (40%)

Examination time: term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[7,376.1.00 The Future of Work](#) -- Englisch -- [Emmenegger Patrick](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

This is an advanced course in comparative and international political economy. Students need not have already taken comparative and/or international political economy classes, but if they have not, they will certainly need to do additional reading to understand the theoretical and empirical context of the course.

Learning objectives

Learning objectives

- Students learn to look at key challenges in today's labor markets from an empirically and theoretically informed perspective.
- Students acquire the analytical tools indispensable for an understanding of the dynamic interdependencies between politics and the economy in today's labor markets.
- Students demonstrate proficiency in analyzing current issues in labor market politics related to technological, economic, and societal change.
- Selected cases familiarize students with analytical challenges in political and economic matters.

Course content

The world of work is rapidly changing. Technological change and particularly the shift towards a knowledge economy that increasingly demands higher skills create a number of challenges for labor markets and skill formation systems. Most of these challenges have to do with the growing importance of knowledge intensive production in advanced economies and with the accelerated pace of change due to technological innovation and globalization. They may lead to labor market polarization, but they may also result in occupational upgrading. According to the recent McKinsey Global Institute report on the future of work in Switzerland, one million jobs (approximately 20 percent of all jobs) will be gone by 2030 due to automatization processes. However, in the same period, one million new jobs will be created. Yet, these new jobs require different skills, which implies that approximately 800'000 people will have to be re-skilled in this period. These developments thus have the potential to fundamentally reshape our societies. In this course, we explore how such macrostructural developments affect labor markets and how labor market and education policies respond to these challenges. We will cover topics such as the dualization of labor markets, job polarization, occupational upgrading, the regulation of the platform economy, the efficiency-inclusion trade-off in skill formation, and many more.

Course structure



This seminar-style course is expected to take place in the form of weekly two-hour meetings. If necessary, for instance in order to respect social distancing rules, participants may be asked to attend some of the meetings online. In case of a complete COVID-19-related lockdown, the course will be held entirely online.

Course literature

Required readings will be made available to the extent possible online via Canvas. Representative readings include:

Brown, Phillip, Lauder, Hugh, and Ashton, David (2011): *The Global Auction: The Broken Promises of Education, Jobs and Incomes*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Busemeyer, Marius and Trampusch, Christine (2012): *The Political Economy of Collective Skill Formation*. Oxford University Press.

Crouch, Colin (2019): *Will the Gig Economy Prevail?* Cambridge: Polity Press.

Emmenegger, Patrick (2014): *The Power to Dismiss: Trade Unions and the Regulation of Job Security in Europe*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Oesch, Daniel (2013): *Occupational Change in Europe: How Technology and Education Transform the Job Structure*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Additional course information

In the case of the President's Board having to implement new directives due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in AS2020, the course information listed above will be changed as follows:

- The course will be conducted online via the platform Zoom.
- The recordings of the course will not be saved.
- The lecturer informs via email on the changed implementation modalities of the course.
- There are no changes necessary to the course and examination information.

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Active participation (20%)

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



2. Examination sub part (2/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (40%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

Form: voice over powerpoint presentation

Examination-aid rule

Term papers

Term papers must be written without anyone else's help and in accordance with the known quotation standards, and they must contain a declaration of authorship which is a published template in StudentWeb.

The documentation of sources (quotations, bibliography) has to be done throughout and consistently in accordance with the chosen citation standard such as APA or MLA.

For papers in law, the legal standard is recommended (by way of example, cf. FORSTMOSER, P., OGOREK R. et SCHINDLER B., *Juristisches Arbeiten: Eine Anleitung für Studierende*, newest edition respectively, or according to the recommendations of the Law School).

The indications of the sources of information taken over verbatim or in paraphrase (quotations) must be integrated into texts in accordance with the precepts of the applicable quotation standard, while informative and bibliographical notes must be added as footnotes (recommendations and standards can be found, for example, in METZGER, C., *Lern- und Arbeitsstrategien*, newest edition respectively).

For any work written at the HSG, the indication of the page numbers is mandatory independent of the chosen citation standard. Where there are no page numbers in sources, precise references must be provided in a different way: titles of chapters or sections, section numbers, acts, scenes, verses, etc.

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 - examination paper written at home (individual) (40%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

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Examination-aid rule

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Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Examination content

(1) Active participation (20%): Students are expected to read the mandatory literature and participate actively in the class discussions.

(2) The decentralized, individual voice-over powerpoint presentation (40%) consists of students submitting an own-produced video (no longer than 5 minutes) in .mp4 file format. The presentation must answer one question out of two that, in turn, will be made available on yet to be specified day. This assignment embraces the totality of the material associated with the course (lectures, discussions, mandatory readings).

(3) The decentralized, individual examination paper written at home (40%) consists of a summary and evaluation of the mandatory readings and class discussions on a given lecture day (max. 3000 words).

Examination relevant literature

All the mandatory readings must be read in advance of the examination. Additional material may be assigned as relevant over the course of the semester.

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 (CW51) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 42 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 34 (Thursday, 20 August 2020);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 12 October 2020);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 12 October 2020);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the registration period in CW 44 (Thursday, 29 October 2020).