



## Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2021

### 7,376: The Future of Work

ECTS credits: 4

#### Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - Presentation (individual in groups - individual grades) (50%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (50%)

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

- 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 and mediate 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 and indications of the learning and teaching design

This seminar-style course is expected to take place in the form of weekly two-hour meetings. Teaching will consist of input



presentations by the lecturer and guest lecturers, weekly input presentations by the students, as well as class room discussion based on the mandatory readings and current debates.

## 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 R. 2015. Skills and Inequality: Partisan Politics and the Political Economy of Education and Training Reforms in Western Welfare States. Cambridge: Cambridge 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.
- Thelen, Katheen A. (2014). Varieties of Liberalization and the New Politics of Social Solidarity. Cambridge: Cambridge 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 AS2021, the course information listed above will be changed as follows:

- The course is conducted online via the platform Zoom;
- The recordings of the course are available for 30 days;
- The lecturer informs via e-mail 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 (1/2)

##### Examination time and form

Decentral - Presentation (individual in groups - individual grades) (50%)

Examination time: term time

##### Remark

Individual presentations if numbers permit

##### Examination-aid rule

Presentations

In presentations, aids for visual presentation can be used. These aids can be specified or restricted by the lecturers.

##### 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 - examination paper written at home (individual) (50%)

Examination time: term time

## Remark

Form: voice over PowerPoint presentation

## 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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## Examination content

Examination consists of two parts: (1) Students will make one class room presentation (individually or in groups, depending on the number of participants) on a given topic (50%). (2) The decentralized, individual voice-over PowerPoint presentation (50%) 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 a yet to be specified day. This assignment embraces the totality of the material associated with the course (lectures, discussions, mandatory readings).

## Examination relevant literature

Required readings will be made available to the extent possible online via Canvas (before the examination). Additional material may be assigned as relevant over the course of the semester. All the stated readings must be read in advance of the examination.



## 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, 26 August 2021);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 18 October 2021);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 18 October 2021);

Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the registration period in CW 45 (Monday, 8 November 2021).