



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2023

7,376: The Future of Work

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

decentral - Presentation, Digital, Group work group grade (40%)

Examination time: Term time

decentral - Presentation, Analog, Group work group grade (40%)

Examination time: Term time

decentral - Active participation, Analog, Individual work individual grade (20%)

Examination time: Term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[7,376,1.00 The Future of Work](#) -- English -- [Emmenegger Patrick](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

Some background knowledge in comparative political economy is helpful but not strictly necessary.

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 and ever changing 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 a 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 skill-biased technological change and occupational upgrading, the growth of atypical forms of employment and the platform economy, the efficiency-inclusion trade-off in skill formation, gender-segmented labor markets, and many more.



Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

This seminar-style course will take place in the form of weekly two-hour meetings. In the first half of the course, teaching will consist of input presentations by the lecturer and class-room discussion. In the second half of the course, students (in groups) will present their own work, which we will take as starting point for further discussion.

Course literature

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

Baccaro, Lucio, Blyth, Mark, and Pontusson, Jonas (2022): *Diminishing Returns: The New Politics of Growth and Stagnation*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

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.

Hassel, Anke, and Palier, Bruno (2021): *Growth and Welfare in Advanced Capitalist Economies*. 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

Patrick Emmenegger is a Professor of Comparative Political Economy and Public Policy. For information on his research, please visit his website at <https://www.pemmenegger.com>.

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/3)

Examination modalities

Examination type	Presentation
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Oral examination
Examination mode	Digital
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Asynchronous
Examination location	Off Campus
Grading type	Group work group grade
Weighting	40%
Duration	--

Examination languages

Question language: English



Answer language: English

Remark

Voice-over presentation (revised presentation)

Examination-aid rule

Free aids provision

Basically, students are free to choose aids. Any restrictions are defined by the faculty members in charge of the examination under supplementary aids.

Supplementary aids

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2. Examination sub part (2/3)

Examination modalities

Examination type	Presentation
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Oral examination
Examination mode	Analog
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Asynchronous
Examination location	On Campus
Grading type	Group work group grade
Weighting	40%
Duration	--

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Remark

Group presentation in class

Examination-aid rule

Free aids provision

Basically, students are free to choose aids. Any restrictions are defined by the faculty members in charge of the examination under supplementary aids.

Supplementary aids

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3. Examination sub part (3/3)

Examination modalities

Examination type	Active participation
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Oral examination
Examination mode	Analog
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Synchronous
Examination location	On Campus
Grading type	Individual work individual grade
Weighting	20%
Duration	--



Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Remark

Active participation in discussion

Examination-aid rule

Free aids provision

Basically, students are free to choose aids. Any restrictions are defined by the faculty members in charge of the examination under supplementary aids.

Supplementary aids

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Examination content

Examination consists of three parts:

1. Presentation (in groups) of own project in class (40%)
2. Voice-over presentation of revised version of presentation given in class (40%)
3. Active participation in class-room discussion (20%)

Examination relevant literature

All examination relevant literature will be made available on StudyNet by December 18, 2023, at the latest.

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, 24 August 2023);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 16 October 2023);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 45 (Monday, 06 November 2023);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the de-registration period in CW 45 (Monday, 06 November 2023).



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