



## Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2024

### 7,376: The Future of Work

ECTS credits: 4

#### Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

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

Examination time: Term time

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

Examination time: Term time

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

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 political science, economics, and comparative political economy is certainly 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 and skill formation systems.

Students demonstrate proficiency in analyzing current issues in labor market politics related to technological, ecological, and economic change.

Selected cases familiarize students with analytical challenges in political and economic matters.

##### Course content

This course is concerned with the political economy of skills for the digital and ecological transformation of modern economies, the so-called "twin transition".

The world of work is rapidly changing. Technological change and particularly the shift towards a knowledge economy 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.



In parallel, governments across the advanced capitalist democracies and beyond have embarked on a variety of measures to position their economies in future-oriented clean-energy industries and more broadly to capture high-value added segments of global value chains. This ecological transition may require a substantial reorganization of modern economies, not least with regard to the skill formation and education systems. However, this transition also offers new opportunities, for instance by increasing demand for occupations that play key roles in this transition (e.g., specialists who can install photovoltaic systems on roofs). Finally, providing skills for the "twin transition" is also an example of decision-making under uncertainty. For instance, there are still numerous open questions about kind of skills are truly needed for the ecological transition and what kind of occupations face the biggest risks in light of the rise of generative artificial intelligence.

In short, the "twin transition" has the potential to fundamentally reshape our societies. In this course, we will talk about what these changes mean for our skill formation and education systems.

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

This seminar-style course will take place in the form of twelve weekly two-hour meetings. The course is reading-intensive. Every week we will discuss two academic papers that explore the political economy of skills for the twin transition. All participants are expected to read the papers before the meetings. Student presentations will be used to kick off the class-room discussions of the assigned readings.

## Course literature

In this class, we will read journal articles and book chapters. All of these required readings will be made available online via Canvas. However, to get an idea, some representative readings include:

Bonoli, Giuliano and Emmenegger, Patrick (2022): *Collective Skill Formation in the Knowledge Economy*. Oxford University Press.

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

Nahm, Jonas (2021): *Collaborative Advantage: Forging Green Industries in the New Global Economy*. Oxford University Press.

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

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## 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

Discussion of second assigned paper

### 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	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

Discussion of first assigned paper

### 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. Active participation in class-room discussions (20%)
2. Discussion of first assigned paper (40%)
3. Discussion of second assigned paper (40%)

Depending on the number of participants, the two paper discussions will be done individually or in groups. In the latter case, groups will be different for the first and the second discussion.

## Examination relevant literature

All examination relevant literature will be made available on StudyNet by 16 December 2024, 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, 22nd August 2024);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 18 March 2024);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 14 October 2024);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: Starting with de-registration period in CW 45 (Monday, 04 November 2024).