

Project Module in Microeconomic Theory



Module Number 332121050	Workload 450 h	Credits 15 CP	Duration 1 Semester	Cycle yearly, winter term
Responsible Faculty Member	Prof. Dr. Deszö Szalay			
Department	Department of Economics			
Study Program	Title		Character	Study Term
	Master of Science Economics		Advanced Module	3rd
Learning Outcomes	<p>After completion of a project module students should:</p> <p>be familiar with the basics of scientific methods relevant for the topic of the project module, be able to do a literature search, read and document scientific articles in Economics, be capable of defining research topics, formulating specific research questions in Economics and developing a research approach to investigate, be acquainted with academic research methods relevant for investigating the project's topic, be able to document, present and defend in class the results of their research</p>			
Key Skills	academic research, academic writing, rhetorical skills, presentation skills			
Content	<p>When individuals interact, incentive problems are the rule rather than the exception. Individuals need to have incentives to reveal information that is used to reach desirable outcomes. Incentives are provided through different forms of social interactions, be that contracts or simply procedural rules. We study theoretical models of interactions among strategic agents in various contexts. One such context is communication and decision making, where we advance our understanding of procedural rules - such as the ones governing the interactions between the US congress and its standing committees - as we see them in practice. Other contexts include the optimal organization of and optimal contracting within firms and further applications.</p>			
Prerequisites for attending	Basic module <i>Microeconomics</i> and at least one advanced module in Microeconomic Theory.			
Course Type	Lectures, Tutorials, etc.		Contact time per week	Workload [h]
	Lectures		2 hrs	60
	Presentations		1 hrs	30
	Discussion Groups		1 hrs	30
	Selfstudy		4 hrs	330
Examination(s)	Type of Examination		Grades	
	<p>Presentation (oral & slides), research paper, report of other presentations. The final grade will be a weighted average of (the quality of) i) the presentation, ii) the research paper and iii) reports.</p> <p>Depending on the actual number of participants, the project work has to be carried out as a group task rather than as an individual task.</p>		yes	
Special Course Achievements	none			
Other	<p>The first six weeks consist of introductory lectures (4h per week). Students can then choose a project from a list of specific cooperation problems in which they wish to increase their knowledge. Students have to work on this project on their own (week 7-12). During that time, students and supervisors will have regular feedback meetings. In weeks 13 and 14, students have to hand in a short research paper and give a presentation of their project in class. Finally, students have to hand in short reports of others' presentations.</p>			