

**Heidelberg University**  
Alfred-Weber-Institut for Economics  
Economic Theory I  
*Prof. Dr. Jürgen Eichberger*



## **Two-Day Seminar for Master Students**

# **Institutions in Economic Theory and Economic History**

Summer Semester 2013

**Time and place: June 28-29, 9:00-18:00, CB 00.010**

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### **Registration and introductory meeting; allocation of seminar topics**

**Time:** Friday, February 15, 14:00-16:00

**Room:** 00.010 Campus Bergheim

**Preliminary meeting:** Friday, May 17, 9:00-13:00, CB 00.010

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**Seminar coordination:** Boris Wiesenfarth

### **Objectives**

The seminar will introduce participants to the literature on the role of institutions in Economic History and Economic Theory.

Seminar requirements are active participation, a seminar paper, and a seminar presentation. The paper should help students to acquire writing skills for academic papers and theses. A presentation in a conference-like environment will teach students how to present complex contents in a limited time frame.

### **Language:**

English

### **General reading:**

Elhanan Helpman (ed.) (2008): "Institutions and Economic Performance", Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

# Topics

## 1. Economics of the Ancient World

Finley, M. I. (1965): "Technical Innovation and Economic Progress in the Ancient World," *Economic History Review, New Series* 18 (1): 29-45.

Morris, I. (2004): "Economic Growth in Ancient Greece," *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics*, 160(4): 709-742.

Temin, P. (2001): "A Market Economy in the Early Roman Empire," *Journal of Roman Studies*, 91:169-181.

## 2. Medieval Economic Growth

Blum, U., and Dudley, L. (2003): "Standardised Latin and medieval economic growth," *European Review of Economic History*, 7(2):213-238.

Campbell, B. M. S. (2008): "Benchmarking medieval economic development: England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, c.1290," *Economic History Review*, 61(4):896-945.

Hirshler, E. E. (1954): "Medieval Economic Competition," *The Journal of Economic History*, 14(1):52-58.

## 3. State and Church, The Economics of Religion

Iannaccone, L. R. (1998): "Introduction to the Economics of Religion," *Journal of Economic Literature* 36(3):1465-149.

Hungerman, D. M. (2005): "Are church and state substitutes? Evidence from the 1996 welfare reform," *Journal of Public Economics*, 89:2245-2267.

Anderson, G. M. (1988): "Mr. Smith and the Preachers: The Economics of Religion in the Wealth of Nations," *Journal of Political Economy*, 96(5):1066-1088.

## 4. Economics of the French Revolution

White, E. N. (1995): "The French Revolution and the Politics of Government Finance," *The Journal of Economic History*, 55(2):227-255.

Acemoglu, D., Cantoni, D., Johnson, S., and Robinson, J. A. (2011): "The Consequences of Radical Reform: The French Revolution," *American Economic Review*, 101(7).

Davies, J.C. (1962): "Toward a Theory of Revolution," *American Sociological Review*, 27(1): 5-19.

## 5. Mercantilism

Williams, W.A. (1958): "The Age of Mercantilism: An Interpretation of the American Political Economy, 1763 to 1828," *The William and Mary Quarterly*, 15(4):419-437.

Heckscher, E. F. (1936): "Revisions in Economic History: V. Mercantilism," *The Economic History Review*, 7(1):44-54.

Irwin, D. A. (1991): "Mercantilism as Strategic Trade Policy: The Anglo-Dutch Rivalry for the East India Trade," *Journal of Political Economy*, 99(6):1296-1314.

## 6. Industrialization

Wong, K., and Yip, C. K. (1999): "Industrialization, Economic Growth, and International Trade," *Review of International Economics*, 7(3):522-540.

Mendels, F. F. (1972): "Proto-Industrialization: The First Phase of the Industrialization Process," *Journal of Economic History*, 32(1): 241-261.

Rosés, J.R. (2003): "Why Isn't the Whole of Spain Industrialized? New Economic Geography and Early Industrialization, 1797-1910," *Journal of Economic History*, 63: 996-1022.

## 7. The North American Fur Trade

Carlos, A. M., and Hoffman, E. (1986): "The North American Fur Trade: Bargaining to a Joint Profit Maximum under Incomplete Information," *The Journal of Economic History*, 46(4): 967-986.

McManus, J.C. (1972): "An Economic Analysis of Indian Behavior in the North American Fur Trade," *The Journal of Economic History* 32(1):36-53.

## 8. Colonial Legacies and Implications for Economic Growth

Meredith, D. (1975): "The British Government and Colonial Economic Policy, 1919-39," *Economic History Review*, 28(3):484-499.

Grier, R. M. (1999): "Colonial legacies and Economic Growth", *Public Choice* 98:317-335.

Gough, K. (1977): "Colonial Economics in Southeast India," *Economic and Political Weekly*, 12(13): 541,543,545,554.

## 9. The Role of Wars and Peace in Economics

Hirshleifer, J. (1991): "The Technology of Conflict as an Economic Activity," *American Economic Review*, 81(2):130-134.

Gartzke, E., Li, Q., and Boehmer, C. (2001): "Investing in the Peace: Economic Interdependence and International Conflict," *International Organization*, 55(2): 391-438.

Gollier, P., and Hoeffler, A. (1998): "On Economic Causes of Civil War," *Oxford Economic Papers*, 50:563-573.

## **10. Civil Wars – Causes and Consequences**

Collier, P., and Hoeffler, A. (1998): “On economic causes of civil war,” *Oxford Economic Papers* 50, 563-573.

Collier, P. (1999): “On the economic consequences of civil war,” *Oxford Economic Papers*, 51, 168-183.

Goldin, C.D., and Lewis, F. D. (1975): “The Economic Cost of the American Civil War: Estimates and Implications,” *The Journal of Economic History*, 35(2):299-326.

## **11. Game Theory, Economic History and Institutions**

Skaperdas, S. (1992): “Cooperation, Conflict, and Power in the Absence of Property Rights,” *American Economic Review* 84 (4):720–739.

Greif, A., Milgrom, P., and Weingast, B.R. (1994): “Coordination, Commitment, and Enforcement: The Case of the Merchant Guild,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 102(4): 745-776.

Binmore, K. (2010): “Game Theory and Institutions,” *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 38:245-252.

## **12. Leadership and Transition of Political Power**

Egorov, G., and Sonin, K. (2009): “Dictators and Their Viziers: Endogenizing the Loyalty-Competence Trade-Off,” *Journal of European Economic Association* 9( 5): 903–930.

Acemoglu, D., and Robinson, J.A. (2001): “A Theory of Political Transition,” *American Economic Review*, 91(4): 938-963.

Debs, A. (2011): “Living by the Sword and Dying by the Sword? Leadership Transitions in and out of Dictatorships,” *Working Paper*, Yale University.

## **13. The Role of Coalitions in Economic History**

Acemoglu, D., Egorov, G., and Sonin, K. (2008): “Coalition Formation in Non-Democracies”, *Review of Economic Studies* 75: 987-1009.

Greif, A. (1993): “Contract Enforceability and Economic Institutions in Early Trade: The Maghribi Traders' Coalition,” *The American Economic Review*, 83(3):525-548.