

## Sommersemester 2008

### Philosophy of Economics – WP für Diplom-Studierende (GUS, LEB, SP)

Semester	ab 5. Sem.
Semesterwochenstunden	2
Kontaktzeit	28

Selbststudium	32
Lehrsprache	Englisch
Vorgesehene Gruppengröße	20

Termin/Uhrzeit/Raum: Donnerstag, 14:15 bis 18 Uhr, 2. Halbjahr, A013

Dozent: Prof. Dr. Nils Rauhut / Jens Andreas Faulstich

### Course unit description

This course offers an introduction to the philosophy of economics. There are two main contact points between the study of philosophy and the study of economics: the relationship between economics and epistemology (theory of knowledge), and the relationship between economics and ethics (moral theory). The former is concerned with questions about whether economics is/is not a science in the image of the natural sciences (or why economics can not/should not be such a science) and associated concerns about the nature and character of economic knowledge. The latter is concerned with the ways in which ethical values are involved in economic reasoning—the values of human welfare, social justice, and the tradeoffs among priorities that economic choices require.

### Objective

The main goal of the course is to give students the chance to explore some main topics in the philosophy of economics. In addition, students will have the chance to practice their English language competence.

### Contents

The course will follow the discussion of topics in Daniel Hausmann's recent book "Economic Analysis, Moral Philosophy and Public Policy" (Cambridge University, 2006). Among other themes the course will address the following topics

- Ethics and Economic Theory
- Theories of Rationality
- Social Choice Theory
- Equality and Rights

### Requirements

regular and active participation (min. 80%).

### Methods

Theoretical discussion, reading, group discussions, presentations. Each student will have to research and give a present a topic related to this course in class.

### Bewertung

Prüfungsleistung in Form einer Präsentation und wissenschaftliche Ausarbeitung eines Themas.

### Set Text:

Daniel Hausmann's recent book "Economic Analysis, Moral Philosophy and Public Policy" (Cambridge University, 2006). **Please order your own copy well in advance!**