Seminar (MA)
Evolutionary Economics

Dipl. Oek. Ann-Kathrin Blankenberg and Professor Dr. Guido Bünstorf

Summer Term 2014

Time and Location: Monday, 16.15-18.00 (first session: April 28, 2014); Room 0207 (NP 6)

6 Credits: MSc Economic Behavior and Governance (PO 2013: Modules 5, 2a & 2b; PO 2012: Module 2 & 5); MA Wirtschaftswissenschaften (Profile 4); MA Wirtschaft, Psychologie und Management (Modules 7 & 8); MA Business Studies (PO 2013: Modules: VWL-IIM-B1, VWL-DiMark-B1; PO 2012: Module: IIM3/ DiMark 3)

Scope and Format:
Evolutionary economics is a general heterodox approach to economics. It encompasses a number of contributions that emphasize development processes and often draw on evolutionary theories from biology. Starting from classic works by Veblen, Schumpeter and others, evolutionary economists have produced a substantial body of theoretical and empirical work addressing a wide variety of economic topics including, but not limited to, innovation and growth. In this course, we will discuss both the conceptual foundations of evolutionary economics and selected applications to specific economic issues. WARNING: This will be a reading-intensive course. We expect participants to have read the mandatory reading for each session (two articles or book chapters per week) and to actively participate in the classroom discussion. In addition, each participant will give an introductory presentation about one of the course topics. This presentation should also take the complementary reading for the respective session into account (where provided). To keep the workload manageable, written assignments will be kept to a minimum.

Credit requirements:
• 1 oral presentation of 15-20 minutes
• 1 essay related to the presentation (in English; 4-6 text pages; due date: August 31, 2014)
• Reading of the assigned course material (denoted as “mandatory reading” below) prior to each session
• Active participation in the classroom discussion

Background reading:

Registration and Selection of Seminar Topics
Open immediately / by e-mail to ak.blankenberg@uni-kassel.de.
Schedule
For each topic an article or book chapter is provided as mandatory reading. We expect all participants to have read this article/chapter ahead of the presentation date. Presentations and essays are expected to use the mandatory reading as a starting point for discussing the topic. Independent searches of the literature and the use of further scholarly work will be indispensable.

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>28.04.2014</td>
<td><strong>Introduction</strong>&lt;br&gt;No reading assignment</td>
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<td>Day</td>
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| 5   | 26.05.2014 | **Part II: The Neo-Schumpeterian Approach**  
**Topic 7: Nelson and Winter I: Organizational Routines**  
|     |          | **Topic 8: Replication of Routines**  
| 6   | 02.06.2014 | **Topic 9: Nelson and Winter II: the Growth Model**  
|     |          | **Topic 10: The Evolution of Industries**  
| 7   | 09.06.2014 | **No class (Pfingstmontag) / No reading assignment.** |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 8   | 16.06.2014 | **Topic 11 Co-evolution of Industries and Institutions**  
|     |          | **Topic 12: Evolutionary Economic Geography**  
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<th>Reading Assignment</th>
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| 23.06.2014 | **Part III: Biological Heritage and Economic Behavior**  
**Topic 13: Darwinism as a General Model of Evolution?**  
**Topic 14: The Naturalistic Approach to Evolutionary Economics**  
| 30.06.2014 | **No class.**  
**No reading assignment.** |
| 07.07.2014 | **Topic 15: Consumer Behavior**  
**Topic 16: Organizational Change**  
| 14.07.2014 | **Topic 17: An Evolutionary Perspective on Economic Policy**  
**Topic 18: Evolutionary Welfare Economics**  