

Research into Social Contracts



Seminar "Basic Income and Social Justice"

(Summer Term 2025)

Prof. Dr. K.J. Bernhard Neumärker

SoCoLab seminar, winner of a University Teaching Award 2012 and the Economics Student Council Award 2021, deviates from a usual seminar setting. The students after reading the necessary papers and finish the required assignments will be welcomed during class to participate and discuss the elements of the theories and their ideas with Prof. Neumärker and his co-workers. The seminar consists of an introduction, 2 blocked meetings, a day of experiments with the participants, and a concluding session for the team experiments. In the first sessions (Part I), the theoretical foundations and political problems are laid, and after the introduction to experiment settings (Part II) follow the presentations and critical discussion on design and conduct of team experiments (Part III). The participation in all the classes is obligatory in order to achieve maximum participation and understanding of the subjects. After the classes and the experiments for seminar participants are over, teams are given a sufficient amount of time to develop an experiment on the topic. In the team experiments, the participants are expected to critically reflect on one of the issues tackled in the seminar. The experiment design formalities and more specific information on the content will be provided to all participants.

Composition of the grade, which must not be worse than 4.0:

- Experiment presentation and participation during discussions: 20%.
- Seminar Paper Part 1, literature section: 30%.
- Seminar Paper Part 2, experiment section: 50%.

and

- A maximum of 20% absence is permitted. •
- More than 20% absence must be approved by us (e.g. unavailability due to illness). •

Students will receive 6 ECTS credit points upon successful completion of the seminar. The Seminar can be recognized as "Topics in the Economics of Social Justice" for students enrolled in the "M.Sc. Economics".

M.Sc. Economics:

- ▶ Internal Elective for the profile "Economics and Politics"
- ▶ External Elective for "Finance" and "Information Systems and Network Economics"
- M.Sc. VWL:
- ► Constitutional Economics and Competition Policy
- ► Empirical Economics
- ▶ Public Sector Economics and International Taxation

M.Sc. BWL:

- ▶ Public Sector Economics
- ► Volkswirtschaftslehre

Time schedule:	
Date	Торіс
22.04.2025* Di	Introductory Session
10 c.t12 h	And Registration
R 01 014 (Wilhelmstraße 26)	
22.04.2025	Upload of the Video Sessions on Basic Income Issues and Theories,
Input via Ilias	and on Social Justice, New Ordoliberalism, and Social Contracting
	with Respect to Basic Income and its Application in Experimental
	Logic and Design
12.05.2025* Mo	Instructional Experiment Sessions for Participants
09 c.t12 h	And arrangement of the Teams for the Experiments
PC Pool 3 (Werthmannstraße	
4, EG))	
01.06.2025	Submission deadline:
Upload via Ilias	Literature section of the seminar paper based on mainly
	mandatory readings (max. 5 pages)
09.06.2025* Mo	Presentation Round 1 of the experiment teams:
09 s.t15 h	Design of the experiment and preliminary results
PC Pool 3 (Werthmannstraße	
4, EG)	
14.07.2025* Mo	Presentation Round 2 of the experiment teams:
09 s.t15 h	Results of the experiment
PC Pool 9a	
(Werthmannstraße 4, EG)	
26. July 2025	Submission deadline:
Upload via Ilias	Description and evaluation of the experiment and its results (max.
	10 pages)
* Attendence is mandatory	

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How to apply:

You can reserve a spot by joining the Ilias folder "Seminar "Basic Income and Social Justice" SS 2025". Registration takes place during the Introductory Session among the attending students. Reservations are prioritized if there are not enough seminar spots available. Ilias folder:

https://ilias.uni-freiburg.de/ilias.php?baseClass=ilrepositorygui&ref_id=3759096

For further questions, feel free to send a mail to marcel.franke (at) vwl.uni-freiburg.de.

Course Website:

https://gwp.uni-freiburg.de/sommersemester-2025/seminar-basic-income-and-social-justice-ss25/