

MA Soziologie / MA Empirische Bildungsforschung / BAGSS Pillars 2/3

## **Seminar: From School to Work**

Winter term 2014/2015

Tuesdays, 2.15-3.45 p.m., Room: F21/03.79

The seminar deals with the transition from education to the labour market. We will thoroughly read and discuss the main theoretical approaches that connect education to labour market placement and outcomes. In addition, we will consider theoretical conceptions and empirical studies that refer to differences in the country settings of educational systems and labour market structures. We will discuss how these settings influence the transition from school to work.

### **Programme:**

1	07/10	Introduction
2	14/10	Brainstorming
3	21/10	Human Capital Theory
4	28/10	Signalling and Screening Theories
5	04/11	Job Competition Model
6	11/11	Segmented Labour Markets
7	18/11	Social Closure, Incentive Enhancing Preferences
8	25/11	Job Assignment, Job Search and Job Mismatches
9	02/12	Labour Market Systems and the Role of Education, part 1
10	09/12	Labour Market Systems and the Role of Education, part 2
11	16/12	Graduate Labour Markets
	23/12	[no session]
12	13/01	Selected Empirical Studies: Cross-Country Differences
13	20/01	Selected Empirical Studies: Testing Theories
14	27/01	Developing Ideas for Term Papers and Final Discussion

### **VC and course reserve:**

Literature, assignments and information sheets will be provided electronically in the 'virtual campus' (VC). Subscribe to the course via the following link:

<https://vc.uni-bamberg.de/moodle/enrol/index.php?id=8570>

Key: school2work

Please note that due to copyright regulations not all literature can be uploaded to the VC. Therefore, an additional course reserve will be provided in the library (TB3).

### **Course objectives:**

- Getting familiar with the major theoretical approaches to the connection between education and labour market outcomes by reading the primary sources
- Learning how institutional arrangements influence the relation between the educational system and the labour market
- Learning to extract relevant parts from the literature and present essential components in a structured way.

### **Course requirements**

- Regular and active participation
- Preparing the sessions by reading the main text
- Taking over 1 presentation and preparing/chairing 1 session
- Writing a term paper which includes conducting an own empirical analysis

### **Details**

#### *Sessions and main text*

- Each session is devoted to a core topic. Prior to each session a main text connected to that topic has to be read by every participant as a basis for discussion.

#### *Session chair and presentation*

- Each participant has to prepare and structure 1 session. This can include designing assignments, developing thesis, raising critique or formulating questions in connection to the main text in order to stimulate the discussion. The session can also be chaired by a group of 2.
- In addition, each session chair has to prepare a presentation of max. 15 minutes. The presentation shall deliver additional input by presenting another topic-related paper. Presentations shall be given by one person only.
- Session chairs have to consult with the course instructor one week prior to the session during office hours.

#### *Term paper*

- The term paper shall be connected to the seminar's theme
- Independent identification of an interesting research question is part of the task, but consultation with the course instructor is recommended
- The paper must include an empirical analysis. Various data sets will be provided.
- Deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> April 2015
- More detailed information will be given in the seminar

## Sessions and Topics

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### **Session 1: Introduction**

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### **Session 2: Brainstorming**

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### **Session 3: Human Capital Theory**

*read:* Becker (1962) or Becker (1993), chapters II-IV

*additional input presentation:*

1) Mincer (1958), Mincer (1974)

*additional literature:* Becker and Chiswick (1966), Schultz (1963), Schultz (1961)

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### **Session 4: Signalling and Screening Theories**

*read:* Spence (1973)

*additional input presentations:*

2) Screening Theory: Stiglitz (1975)

3) Higher education as a filter: Arrow (1973)

*additional literature:* Spence (1974), Weiss (1995)

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### **Session 5: Job Competition Model**

*read:* Thurow (1972) or Thurow (1975), chapters 1-5

*additional input presentations:*

4) Training costs model: Glebbeek *et al.* (1989)

*additional literature:* Thurow (1979)

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### **Session 6: Segmented Labour Markets**

*read:* Doeringer and Piore (1971), chapters 1-4

*additional input presentations:*

5) Matching persons to jobs: Sorensen and Kalleberg (1981)

6) The challenge of segmented labour market theories: Cain (1976)

*additional literature:* Saint-Paul (1997)

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### **Session 7: Social Closure, Incentive Enhancing Preferences**

*read:* Murphy (1988), chapter 8

*additional input presentations:*

7) Investigating social closure: Weeden (2002)

8) Incentive enhancing preferences: Bowles and Gintis (2000), Bowles and Gintis (1976), chap.4-5

*additional literature:* Bowles and Gintis (2002), Bowles and Gintis (1975), Collins (1979), Collins (1971), Parkin (1979), Parkin (1974), Weber (1964)

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### **Session 8: Job Assignment, Job Search and Job Mismatches**

*read:* Sattinger (1993)

*additional input presentations:*

9) Job search theory: McCall (1970), Stigler (1962)

10) Overeducation/unemployment: Dolton and Vignoles (2000) or Humburg *et al.* (2012)

11) Educational vs. skill mismatches: Allen and van der Velden (2001) or van de Werfhorst (2002)  
*additional literature:* Allen *et al.* (2013), Boumahdi and Plassard (1992), Hartog (1985), Hartog (2000), Jovanovic (1979), McGuinness and Sloane (2011), Stigler (1961)

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**Session 9: Labour Market Systems and the Role of Education, part 1**

*read:* Müller and Shavit (1998)

*additional input presentation:*

12) Standardization and stratification: Allmendinger (1989)

13) Organizational vs. occupational spaces: Maurice *et al.* (1980),

*additional literature:* Kerckhoff (1995), Maurice *et al.* (1986), Shavit and Müller (2000), Shavit and Müller (1998), Müller (2001)

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**Session 10: Labour Market Systems and the Role of Education, part 2**

*read:* Müller and Gangl (2003a), Gangl (2003b)

*additional input presentation:*

14) Internal vs. occupational labour markets: Marsden (1999), Marsden (1990)

15) Varieties of Capitalism: Estevez-Abe *et al.* (2001), Hall and Soskice (2001)

*additional literature:* Kogan *et al.* (2011), Kogan *et al.* (2008), Kogan and Müller (2003), Marsden and Ryan (1995), Müller and Gangl (2003b)

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**Session 11: Graduate Labour Markets**

*read:* Leuze (2007)

*additional input presentation:*

16) Field of study: Klein (2010; 2011) or Reimer *et al.* (2008) or Giesecke and Schindler (2008)

17) Time to first job: Salas-Velasco (2007), Klein (2011)

18) Type of Institution: Monks (2000), Black and Smith (2004) or Triventi and Trivellato (2012)

*additional literature:* Allen *et al.* (2000), Allen and van der Velden (2007), Salas-Veralsco (2006), Teichler (2007)

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**Session 12: Selected Empirical Studies: Cross-Country Differences**

*read:* Wolbers (2007)

*additional input presentation:*

19) Returns to education in context: Gangl (2003a)

*additional literature:* Shavit and Müller (2000), Wolbers (2003), Ryan (2001)

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**Session 13: Selected Empirical Studies: Testing Theories**

*read:* van de Werfhorst (2011)

*additional input presentation:*

20) Selection process experiment: de Wolf and van der Velden (2001)

21) How much does Education matter and why: van der Velden and Wolbers (2007)

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**Session 14: Developing Ideas for Term Papers and Final Discussion**

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