

# Summer School in Law & Economics 2024

University of Hamburg  
June 10th – June 28th

Institute of Law and Economics



Universität Hamburg

DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG

JUNE 10 – 14

PROF. EVA VAN DER ZEE, HAMBURG UNIVERSITY

## BEHAVIORAL LAW AND ECONOMICS

This course provides an advanced survey and discussion of a number of current topics and debates in behavioral law and economics. We will read and analyze recent scholarly contributions by legal scholars, cognitive scientists, and behavioral economists. The aim is threefold:

- I. Students will become familiar with the basic notions in behavioral law and economics.
- II. Students will learn to analyze law through the lens of behavioral science.
- III. Students will improve their understanding of scholarly contributions by legal scholars, behavioral economists, and psychologists.

Example topics include how to incorporate insights from cognitive science and behavioral economics in legal interpretation and application, the methodological and normative limitations of including behavioral law and economics, the current role of cognitive science and behavioral economics in legal analysis and avenues for further research.

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Eva van der Zee is a Junior Professor (Tenure Track) in International Law with a focus on Behavioral Law and Economics at the Institute of Law and Economics at Hamburg University Faculty of Law since 2019. Her current research focuses on the role and interrelation of formal and informal legal systems in promoting sustainable development using insights from the social sciences, in particularly behavioral economics, social psychology, and sociology. Eva has published articles in *Transnational Environmental Law*, *Journal of World Trade*, *World Competition Law and Economic Review*, *German Law Journal*, *American Journal of International Law Unbound and Sustainability*, amongst others. In addition, she has advised governmental institutions on the role of law and policy to promote sustainable development. She is the co-founder of BRAIN (Behavioral Research Approaches in International Law Network) and the ESIL (European Society of International Law) Interest Group on Social Sciences and International Law.

JUNE 17 – 21

PROF. CHRISTIAN BJØRNSKOV, AARHUS UNIVERSITY

## APPLYING PUBLIC CHOICE TO LAW AND ECONOMICS

This course introduces the students to a selection of topics within public choice and political economy, and the application of the unique methodology of public choice to questions within law and economics.

The course is structured around five lectures, four exercises, and a final session discussing the main approach and questions for future research. The first of these focuses on public choice methodology, including diagnosing market and government failures, collective action problems, and logrolling. Subsequent lectures deal with rent-seeking and corruption, constitutional political economy, bureaucracy and regime transitions, and epistemological problems in law and policy-making.

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Christian Bjørnskov is a Professor of Economics at Aarhus University in Denmark, Affiliated Researcher with the Research Institute of Industrial Economics in Stockholm, and the 2024-25 President of the Public Choice Society. His research spans topics within the intersection of political economy, political science and law and economics, such as consequences of constitutionalized rights, illegal regime transitions, and the historical roots of political institutions. His research has been published in journals such as American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Public Choice, Journal of Development Economics and Academy of Management Perspectives. His most recent book State of Emergency, coauthored with Stefan Voigt, is forthcoming in April 2024.

JUNE 24 – JUNE 28

PROF. ANASTASIA LITINA, UNIVERSITY OF MACEDONIA

## CULTURAL ECONOMICS

The course has three main goals: First, to introduce students to cultural economics, a unique area of economics. We'll explore non-traditional factors like geography, religion, diversity, trust, inequality, and family ties that have a lasting impact on economic outcomes. Second, the course will teach students how to effectively read and understand research papers. We'll cover how to identify the main question of a paper, interpret its results, and begin to understand the mechanisms behind these findings. Lastly, the course will showcase the vast array of historical and cultural data now available. We'll examine both individual and macro-level data, learn about various sources, and use online tools to easily gather data for presentations or policy reports. This data, highlighting the influence of culture on modern economies, can be used for various purposes. We'll delve into different levels of analysis, examining how culture affects individuals, businesses, and nations. This field of study is crucial as it broadens our understanding of economics by incorporating cultural perspectives, ultimately leading to more comprehensive and insightful economic analyses that reflect the complex realities of societies around the world.

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**Anastasia Litina** is an Assistant Professor at the University of Macedonia in Thessaloniki, Greece. She is also an Extramural Research Fellow at the University of Luxembourg. She received her Ph.D. in Economics at the University of Macedonia, visited Brown University for a semester, Einaudi Institute and worked at the University of Luxembourg as a postdoctoral researcher prior to her employment in Greece. Her research interests include a theoretical and empirical exploration of the long-run determinants of growth and the implications of culture for socioeconomic outcomes. Her work has been published in the *Economic Journal*, *Journal of Economic Growth*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Harvard Business Review*, *World Development*, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, and others. She is currently ranked among the top 2% of female economists according to IDEAS and top 5% among male and female economists (based on publications of the last 10 years).

## Application

The Summer School provides a seminar atmosphere with groups not larger than 25 participants. Therefore, the number of places for each course is limited. The courses are free of charge and open to doctoral students only. Doctoral students can apply for the whole Summer School as well as for one or some courses in the program. To apply, please use the online form <https://t1p.de/r7pbX>.

Application deadline is March 15.



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# Materials and Housing

Reading materials will be made accessible free of charge online. Please note that the University of Hamburg cannot assist participants in finding accommodation and financial support to attend the Summer School.

***For updates on times and venues, please visit***  
**[www.ile-hamburg.de](http://www.ile-hamburg.de)**

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UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE, COURSES WILL TAKE PLACE AT  
THE UNIVERSITY OF HAMBURG **SEMINAR ROOM 1083A, VON-  
MELLE-PARK 5**

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## Contact

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To direct questions regarding the summer school, please use:  
[summerschool@ile-hamburg.de](mailto:summerschool@ile-hamburg.de)



## European Doctorate in Law and Economics

The European Doctorate in Law & Economics is one of the largest doctorate programs in the field of Law and Economics. It is a joint doctoral program by four of the leading European universities: the Universities of Bologna, Hamburg, Rennes 1 and Rotterdam. The stipend-based program aims at addressing a new class of outstanding PhD researchers from all over the world.

The EDLE is sponsored by the DAAD. In Hamburg, the program is chaired by Prof. Dr. Stefan Voigt.

For more information, please visit

[www.edle-phd.eu](http://www.edle-phd.eu)



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