

- Faculté des sciences économiques
- www.unine.ch/seco

Behavioral Economics (5ER2050)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Master en économie appliquée	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	3
Master en finance	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	3

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Automne

Equipe enseignante

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Contenu

In this course we will cover the basic concepts and topics studied in behavioral economics: e.g. risk perceptions, social preferences, self-commitments, psychological non-monetary factors in people's decision making. The topics are introduced based on empirical experimental papers. No prior knowledge of the field is required. However, we will make links to basic microeconomic approach. The students gain knowledge of the main concepts in the field of behavioral economics and acquire tools to conduct their own experimental research.

The in-class lectures are divided by topics and mainly discuss empirical papers to illustrate the respective concepts. Each lecture ends with a set of self-control questions; the solution to these questions are discussed in the class. The set of self-control questions serves as basis for the questions in the final exam.

As part of the course, student will form groups to conduct small research projects around the topics discussed in the class. The groups projects contribute to the final evaluation. The detailed guidelines for the group research projects and their evaluation criteria will be provided on Moodle.

Forme de l'évaluation

Final 2-hour written exam during the exam session (80%) and grade from the group research projects (20%). This is a closed-book exam: No documents, written materials, notes or related items are allowed during the exam. Any violation of these rules will be considered as fraud, leading to the withdrawal of unauthorized items and possibly exam failure.

Modalités de rattrapage

2-hour written exam during the exam session (100% of the final grade)

This is a closed-book exam: No documents, written materials, notes or related items are allowed during the exam. Any violation of these rules will be considered as fraud, leading to the withdrawal of unauthorized items and possibly exam failure.

Documentation

All the materials (slides, research papers) will be provided on Moodle. We will use R for statistical analysis in the class. However, students are free to use other statistical software.

For empirical part we will mainly rely on z-Tree, a software to conduct economic experiments. Students can optionally use this software for their group projects. However, they are free to conduct a paper-and-pencil experiment as part of the their group project (detailes will be explained in the class).

Pré-requis

No prior knowledge is required. However, students familiar with basic microeconomic (and game) theory and statistics (hypotheses testing) would benefit most from the examples discussed in the class.

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Forme de l'enseignement

Weekly 2-hour in-class lecture, 2-hour lab session + 2-hour presentation of group projects

Objectifs d'apprentissage

Au terme de la formation l'étudiant-e doit être capable de :

- Evaluate main approaches in behavioral economic research
- Discuss main findings in behavioral economics (and their relation to classic microeconomic theory))

Compétences transférables

- Design research projects
- Communicate research results
- Work in groups