334.150 Seminar on Organizational Design and Incentives

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Course description
This is a Master-level seminar in Organizational Economics and Competitive Strategy. The seminar uses concepts and methods taught in courses on Transaction Cost Economics, Property Rights Theory, Principal-Agent Theory, and Competitive Strategy. In this course we will read and discuss research articles from the literature.

Previous knowledge expected (Prerequisites)
It is expected that you have mastered the concepts and analytical methods in intermediate courses on Microeconomics, Game Theory, and Statistics. A prerequisite for this course is that you have taken 334.100/101 Masterkurs Management, 334.111/121 Organizational Design and Incentives 1/2, and 334.130 Organizational Design and Strategy 1.

Objective
After this course, students should have a deeper understanding of key issues in Organizational Economics and Competitive Strategy. Students are expected to:

- Independently work on a specific research topic
- Do research on this topic using journal databases (e.g. ProQuest, EconLit, EbscoHost, ScienceDirect, etc) or research papers networks (e.g. Social Science Research Network)
- Learn how to structure a research essay
- Learn how to present a research paper

Language of instruction:
This course will be held in English.

Teaching and learning method
The course consists of a mix of group discussions and student presentations.

Exam information
Assessment is based on:
(i) Active involvement and participation in class (please note that class attendance is mandatory!),
(ii) The presentation of the research paper in English (prepare a 2-page handout; strictly follow the guidelines for scientific writing)
(iii) Research paper in English
(iv) Written end-of-seminar exam

Schedule
TBA
Topics

Strategic Delegation in Oligopoly:

Performance measurement and Competition

Duration of Contracts and Competitive Effects

Organizational Governance and Competition

Organizational Structure, First-Mover-Vorteil und Wettbwerb

Economizing versus Strategicizing in a Cournot Duopoly Model

Corporate Social Responsibility and Incentive Contracts

Green Consumerism and social interaction

Make-or-Buy in an Oligopoly context

Vertical integration or separation in an oligopoly