

## Syllabus – Pluralism in Economics HS 2023

### Instructor

Dina Pomeranz

Email: [dina.pomeranz@econ.uzh.ch](mailto:dina.pomeranz@econ.uzh.ch)

Office hours: by appointment

### Teaching Assistant and Section Times

Daphne Rutnam

Email: [daphne.rutnam@econ.uzh.ch](mailto:daphne.rutnam@econ.uzh.ch)

Office hours: by appointment

### Time and Location

Friday, 29.09.2023, 13.30-18.00. Room KAB-G-01

Friday, 20.10.2023, 13.30-18.00. Room KAB-G-01

Friday, 03.11.2023, 13.30-18.00. Room KAB-G-01

Friday, 17.11.2023, 13.30-18.00. Room SOD-1-102

Friday, 01.12.2023, 13.30-18.00. Room KAB-G-01

Please note that the room location may change – room changes will be announced on OLAT in advance.

### Final Exam

Friday, 19.01.2024, 16.15-17.45. Room SOC-F-106

### Course Description

Throughout the history of economics, there have been debates about its methods and approaches. This interactive course will look at some of today's different approaches both within mainstream economics and in heterodox economics. What are the commonalities and differences between these research approaches? Instead of a weekly class, this course meets for five afternoons, in each of which we will have time to dive into a different topic from multiple angles. These topics include issues of gender and feminist economics; global poverty, inequality, development and de-colonialization; climate, environment and ecological economics; different economic systems, and the notion of pluralism and its interpretations. Each of the sessions will combine presentations by both mainstream and heterodox economists, small group discussions and interactive exchanges.

### Grading

<i>Item</i>	<i>Points</i>
Assignments	20%
Participation	20%
Final exam	60%

### Assignments

Four written assignments will be set during the course. Each will consist of a short response essay (2-4 pages), based on readings and questions related to the next session. The readings and questions for each assignment will be uploaded on OLAT.

Assignments will be due the day before the next session: 19.10 (first assignment); 2.11 (second assignment); 16.11 (third assignment); and 30.11 (fourth assignment). They need to be uploaded to the OLAT Drop Box folder by 10 pm.

At each session (of sessions 2-5), two students will be selected at random to briefly present their assignments.

### **Class Policies**

Please be advised that the use of laptops, smartphones, etc. is not allowed during classes.

### **Schedule and Topics**

<b>Session</b>	<b>Weekday</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	Friday	29.09	Course Introduction
2	Friday	20.10	Environment and Ecology
3	Friday	03.11	Feminism and Gender
4	Friday	17.11	Decolonization
5	Friday	01.12	Economic Systems

## Reading List

In order to keep the course up-to-date, the reading list will be filled in sequentially throughout the semester based on the visiting speakers' recommendations.

**The required readings are in bold.** It is recommended to read them **before the class** and they will be part of the materials covered in the exam. Assignments must demonstrate that you have read **all required readings** related to that assignment. The other readings are optional for those who are interested in further learning.

### General resources

Journal of Economic Literature – contains nice summaries of the latest economic research

VoxEU – contains short summaries of research in different fields in mainstream economics

VoxDev – contains short summaries of economic research relating to development economics

### *Session 1, September 29: Course Introduction*

**Dobusch, L. and Kapeller, J., 2012. Heterodox United vs. Mainstream City? Sketching a framework for interested pluralism in economics. *Journal of Economic Issues*, 46(4), pp.1035-1058.**

**Gräbner, C. and Strunk, B., 2020. Pluralism in economics: its critiques and their lessons. *Journal of Economic Methodology*, 27(4), pp.311-329.**

Heise, A., 2016. 'Why has economics turned out this way?' A socio-economic note on the explanation of monism in economics. *Journal of Philosophical Economics*, 10(Articles), pp.81-101.

**Naidu, S., Rodrik, D. and Zucman, G., 2019. Economics for inclusive prosperity: an introduction. *EfIP Research Brief*.**

### *Session 2, October 20: Environment and Ecology*

**Climate Leadership Council (CLC), Economists' Statement on Carbon Dividends, 2019.**

**Hémous, D., Green innovation policies: Economics and climate change. 2021. *UBS Center Public Paper*.**

**Hickel, J., Kallis, G., Jackson, T., O'Neill, D.W., Schor, J.B., Steinberger, J.K., Victor, P.A Urge-Vorsatz, D., Degrowth can work —here's how science can help. 2022. *Nature*, Vol 612.**

**Ritchie, H., Are we the last generation – or the first sustainable one? 2023. *TED Talk*.**

**Rom, A., Gunther, I., Pomeranz, D., Increasing Energy Access While Decreasing Emissions. 2023.**

**Strand, R., Kovacic, Z., Funtowicz, S., Benini, L., Jesus, A., Growth without economic growth. 2021. *Sustainability transitions*.**

**Wagner, R., The Green Growth Mindset, 2023. *Project Syndicate*.**

European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE). 2019. Economists' Statement on Carbon Pricing

Kallis, G., Kostakis, V., Lange, S., Muraca, B., Paulson, S., Schmelzer, M. Research On Degrowth. 2018. *Annual*

Review Environmental Resources, 43:291–316

International Monetary Fund, 2020. *World Economic Outlook, October 2020: A Long and Difficult Ascent. Chapter 3: Mitigating Climate Change.*

Pomeranz, D., 2017. *Impact Evaluation Methods in Public Economics: a Brief Introduction to Randomized Evaluations and Comparison with Other Methods* (Sections 1 and 2). *Public Finance Review*, 45(1):10-43

Walker, J. and Daryanovel, 2020. *More heat than life: The tangled roots of ecology, energy, and economics.* Palgrave Macmillan.

*Session 3, November 3: Feminism and Gender*

**Kleven, Henrik, Camille Landais, and Jakob Egholt Søgaard. 2019. "Children and Gender Inequality: Evidence from Denmark." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 11 (4): 181-209.**

**Power, Marilyn. 2004. *Social Provisioning as a Starting Point for Feminist Economics, Feminist Economics*, 10:3, 3-19.**

**The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. 2023. *Popular science background: History helps us understand gender differences in the labour market. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.***

Agenjo-Calderón, A. and Gálvez-Muñoz, L. (2019), *Feminist Economics: Theoretical and Political Dimensions. Am J Econ Sociol*, 78: 137-166.

Ashraf, Nava. 2009. *Spousal Control and Intra-household Decision Making: An Experimental Study in the Philippines. American Economic Review*, 99 (4): 1245-77.

Ashraf, Nava, Erica Field, and Jean Lee. 2014. *Household Bargaining and Excess Fertility: An Experimental Study in Zambia. American Economic Review*, 104 (7): 2210-37.

Ashraf, N., Field, E., Voena, A. and Ziparo, R., 2022. *Gendered Spheres of Learning and Household Decision Making over Fertility. Working Paper*, 28220.

Kabeer, Naila. 2020. *Women's Empowerment and Economic Development: A Feminist Critique of Storytelling Practices in "Randomista" Economics, Feminist Economics*, 26:2, 1-26.

Institute for New Economic Thinking. 2021. *Feminist Economics (lecture series). Institute for New Economic Thinking.*

The Committee for the Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel. 2023. *Scientific Background to the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2023. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.*

Tejani, Sheba. 2019. *What's feminist about feminist economics?, Journal of Economic Methodology*, 26:2,99-117.

*Session 4, November 17: Decolonization*

**Duflo, Esther. 2010. *Social experiments to fight poverty. TED Talk.***

**Kvangraven, Ingrid Harvold & Kesar, Surbhi. 2023. *Standing in the way of rigor? Economics' meeting with the decolonization agenda. Review of International Political Economy*, 30:5, 1723-1748.**

**Glennerster, Rachel. 2016. Not so small. *Running Randomized Evaluations* (blog). May 27, 2016. <http://runningres.com/blog/2016/5/27/not-so-small>**

**Táíwò, Olúfemi. 2023. It never existed: The idea of a ‘precolonial’ Africa is theoretically vacuous, racist and plain wrong about the continent’s actual history. *Aeon*.**

Banerjee, A.V. and Duflo, E., 2009. The experimental approach to development economics. *Annu. Rev. Econ.*, 1(1), pp.151-178.

Furtado, Celso. 2021. The Myth of Economic Development and the Future of the Third World. *Review of Political Economy*, 33(1), pp. 16-27.

Manda, Constantine. 2023. Gods and Kings: The Long-Term Effect of Ancient Politics on Contemporary Religiosity.

Paine, J., Qiu, X. and Ricart-Huguet, J., 2021. Endogenous Colonial Borders: Precolonial States and Geography in the Partition of Africa. *Available at SSRN 3934110*.

Samba Sylla, Ndongo. 2020. ‘Introduction’ in Furtado, Celso. *The Myth of Economic Development*. Medford, MA, USA and Cambridge, UK.

*Session 5, December 1: Economic Systems*

**Backhouse, Roger. 1985. *A History of Modern Economic Analysis*. B. Blackwell. Oxford. (Note: only Chapter 28: Alternative Approaches is mandatory)**

**Dow, Sheila C. 2011. Heterodox economics: history and prospects. *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, 35(6), pp. 1151–1165.**

**Laibman, D. 2001. Contours of the maturing socialist economy. *Historical Materialism*, 9(1), pp.85-110.**

**Naidu, Suresh, Sethi, Rajiv and Thomas, Sarah. 2021. *A World of Differences: An Introduction to Inequality*. *CORE Insights*.**