

PhD Course

The Empirics of Economic Organizations & Transaction Costs

with *Scott E. Masten*



August 27 – September 1, 2012
SLU, Uppsala, Sweden

Course Coordinator *Kostas Karantininis*

<http://www.slu.se/economics-nova-phd>

<http://www.slu.se/ekonomi-nova-phd>

<http://www2.nova-university.org/chome/cpage.php?cnr=05-111014-437>



European Association of
Agricultural Economists

130th EAAE Seminar August 30-Sept 1

*Did agricultural economics disappoint? Empirical Applications
on Governance of Food and Fibre Value Chains,*

SLU, Uppsala, Sweden <http://www.slu.se/economics-eaae-seminar>

Host Department of Economics, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)
<http://www.slu.se/economics/>

Dates *Welcome:* Sunday, August 26
Lectures: Monday August 27– Thursday August 29., 2012
EAAE Seminar: Friday August 30- Saturday September 1

TEACHERS

Scott E. Masten, Ross School of Business, University of Michigan, USA
Kostas Karantininis (Course Coordinator), SLU & KU
Carl-Johan Lagerkvist SLU, Sweden
Liesbeth Dries University of Wageningen, The Netherlands
Stefano Pascucci University of Wageningen, The Netherlands
Gaetano Martino University of Perugia, Italy

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course is an inquiry into the fundamental principles of organizational choice viewed through the transaction cost lens. The main focus is on the empirical method of studying organizational and contract choice. Theory and empirical applications on agri-food chains are presented in depth. Practical exercises with actual data estimated using econometric methods are integrated into the course. Specific topics covered include: Perspectives on Economic Organization; New Institutional Economics; Contract choice and Design; Governance of Value Chains; Evidence and Applications of Organizational Forms; The Network Form of Governance; Theories and Boundaries of the Firm; Organizational Competences in Developing countries; Applications on Agri-food Chains; Organization and the Institutional Environment. The course program concludes with a two-day seminar workshop where international researchers are presenting their applied and theoretical work on organizations, institutions and value chains, and students participate as discussants.

OBJECTIVES

The course will introduce the students into the theory and applications of the economics of organization and through the transaction cost lens. At the end of the course the students will be able to:

- **Recognize** the function of and distinctions among organizational arrangements;
- **Apply** the transaction cost theory to analyze the choice and structure of contracts and organizational forms;
- **Evaluate** empirically the determinants and performance consequences of alternative organizational and contractual arrangements.
- **Apply** the above skills in problems related to agri-food and other industries

Related Event – Students participate free of charge:

130th EAAE Seminar August 30 – September 1:
Did agricultural economics disappoint? Empirical Applications on Governance of Food and Fibre Value Chains
<http://www.slu.se/economics-eaae-seminar>



European Association of Agricultural Economists



COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Activity	Teachers
Sun 26/Aug	Evening	Welcome reception	
Mon 27/Aug	08:30-10:30	Perspectives on Economic Organization	<i>S.E. Masten</i>
	10:30-12:30	New Institutional Economics	<i>K. Karantininis</i>
	12:30-14:00	Lunch	
	14:00-15:00	Governance in agri-food value chains: Applications	<i>L. Dries</i>
	15:00-16:00	Introduction to term papers topics	<i>K. Karantininis; S. Pascucci; L. Dries, G. Martino</i>
	16:00-17:00	Introduction to STATA	<i>F. Li</i>
	17:00-19:00	Dinner	
Tue 28/Aug	08:30-10:30	Contract Choice and Design	<i>S.E. Masten</i>
	10:30-12:30	Governance in value chains	<i>K. Karantininis</i>
	12:30-14:00	Lunch	
	14:00-15:00	Governance in agri-food value chains: Applications	<i>S. Pascucci</i>
	15:00-17:00	Preparation of data for STATA Working with STATA	<i>F. Li</i>
	17:00-19:00	Dinner	
Wed 29/Aug	08:30-10:30	Organizational Form: Evidence & Applications	<i>SE Masten</i>
	10:30-12:30	The Organization of Innovations	<i>G. Martino</i>
	12:30-14:00	Lunch	
	14:00-17:00	Econometrics of contracts using STATA	<i>S. Masten; K. Karantininis; S. Pascucci; L. Dries; F. Li</i>
	17:00-19:00	Dinner	
Thur 30/Aug	08:30-10:30	Theories and Boundaries of the Firm	<i>SE Masten</i>
	10:30-12:30	Organizational competences in developing countries	<i>C-J Lagerqvist</i>
	12:30-14:00	Lunch	
	14:00-15:00	Term Papers	<i>K. Karantininis; S. Pascucci; L. Dries</i>
	14:00-17:00	Econometrics of contracts using STATA	<i>S. Masten; K. Karantininis; S. Pascucci; L. Dries; F. Li</i>
	17:00-19:00	Dinner	
Fri 31/Aug	08:30-09:30	Organization and the Institutional Environment	<i>SE Masten</i>
	09:30-12:00	Workshop	Students; Participants
	12:30-14:00	Lunch	
	14:00-15:00	Peri-Urban agriculture in Sub-Saharan Africa	<i>C-J Lagerqvist</i>
	15:00-17:30	Workshop	Students, Participants
	18:00-20:00	Dinner	
Sat 01/Sep	08:30-09:30	Value Chains in the agri-food industry: questions, methods and applications	<i>K. Karantininis</i>
	12:30-14:00	Lunch	
	14:00-15:00	Supply chains and networks	<i>Stefano Pascucci</i>
	15:00-17:30	Workshop	Students, Participants
	18:00-20:00	Dinner	



PRE-REQUISITES • Intermediate microeconomics • Elementary econometrics

COURSE APPROACH:

- Pre - course reading assignments – Literature list prepared by Teachers
- As part of the course requirement, the students will have to submit a one-page proposal of a research paper based on the pre-assigned literature prior to the start of the course
- This proposal will be discussed and elaborated during the course and will form the basis for the students' term papers to be submitted after the end of the course.
- Two day workshop [130th EAAE Seminar](#) with guest participants where research papers will be presented so students will be exposed to how applied research is executed, presented and debated in academic environments
- At the end, students will be given four weeks to complete their research paper which will be evaluated by the instructors

EVALUATION

- **5 ECTS**
- **No Written Exam**
- **Research Paper**
- **Short Proposal** Based on pre-assigned literature. To be handed in at the beginning of the course **August 24, 2012.**
- **Research paper** to be submitted four weeks after the course end: **Sept 28, 2012**



ALL THE IMPORTANT DATES

- **June 30, 2012** Last Day for Registration
- **August 24, 2012** Submission of proposal for Research Paper
- **August 26, 2012** Arrival, Welcome Reception at SLU
- **August 27-30, 2012** Course Lectures
- **August 31-Sept 1 2012** 130th EAAE Seminar



PARTICIPATION FEES †

Course Category	Participant	Course Fee	Accommodation and Meals	Comment
NOVA - PhD		€ 0 (free)	€ 0 (free)	Max 25 NOVA students
Other Nordic - PhD		€ 0 (free)	€ 750 *	Estimate For six (6) nights*
BOVA - PhD		€ 0 (free)	€ 750 *	Estimate For six (6) nights*
BOVA - Non-PhD		€ 200	€ 750 *	Estimate For six (6) nights*
Other Baltic - PhD		€ 200	€ 750 *	Estimate For six (6) nights*
Low income countries		€ 200	€ 750 *	Estimate For six (6) nights*
Other countries - PhD		€ 300	€ 750 *	Estimate For six (6) nights*
Other - Non-PhD		€ 300	€ 750 *	Estimate For six (6) nights*
Industry / Institutes		€ 300	€ 750 *	Estimate For six (6) nights*
* Exact Fee for Accomodation and Meals Will be provided Shortly				
All participants are responsible for their own transportation to and from Uppsala				
NOVA Members: http://www.nova-university.org/page.cfm?open=2&MenySidor_id=2				
BOVA Members: http://www.bova-university.org/bova/index.php?list=about				
†NOVA Fees: http://www.nova-university.org/page.cfm?open=7&MenySidor_id=17				



REGISTRATION

Final registration will be **Saturday, 30 June, 2012.**

To register, as well as, learn more about the course and EAAE Seminar details, visit the links:

SLU: <http://www.slu.se/economics-nova-phd>

NOVA: <http://www2.nova-university.org/chome/cpage.php?cnr=05-111014-437>

EAAE Seminar: <http://www.slu.se/economics-eaae-seminar>

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Location of the event:

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