Seminar: From School to Work
Winter term 2015/2016
Tuesdays, 2.15-3.45pm, Room: FMA/01.19

The seminar deals with the transition from education to the labour market. We will read and discuss the main theoretical approaches that connect education to labour market placement and outcomes. In addition, we will consider how country differences in the setup of educational systems and labour market structures influence the transition from school to work. The theoretical considerations will be complemented by a discussion of empirical studies.

Modules:

MA Soziologie: Fortgeschrittene Themen der Sozialstrukturanalyse (A.6)
Fortgeschrittene Themen der Lebensverlaufsforschung (C.1.1 A)

MA EBF: Bildungssoziologie Basismodul (Bildungsrenditen)

Programme:

1  20/10  Introduction
2  27/10  Approaching the Topic
3  03/11  Human Capital
4  10/11  Signalling and Screening
5  17/11  Job Competition
6  24/11  Social Closure
     01/12  no session
7  08/12  Labour Market Segmentation
8  15/12  Matching Persons to Jobs
9  22/12  Labour Market Systems and the Role of Education, Part 1
     29/12  no session
     05/01  no session
10  12/01  Labour Market Systems and the Role of Education, Part 2
       14/01  4:15pm guest lecture: Kristian Karlson (FG1/00.06)
11  19/01  Empirical Studies: Testing Theories
       20/01  6:15pm guest lecture: Herman van de Werfhorst (FG1/00.08)
12  26/01  Empirical Studies: The Graduate Labour Market
13  02/02  Final Discussion or Exam
VC and course material:

Literature, assignments and information sheets will be provided electronically in the ‘virtual campus’ (VC). Subscribe to the course via the following link:

https://vc.uni-bamberg.de/moodle/enrol/index.php?id=14111

Key: will be provided in the first session

Please note that due to copyright regulations not all literature can be uploaded to the VC. Therefore, an additional course reserve will be provided in the library (TB3).

Course objectives:

- Getting familiar with the major theoretical approaches to the connection between education and labour market outcomes
- Learning how institutional arrangements influence the relation between the educational system and the labour market
- Learning to extract relevant parts from the literature and present essential components in a structured way.

Course requirements

- Regular and active participation
- Preparing the sessions by reading the main text
- Taking over 1 presentation and preparing/chairing 1 session

Details

Sessions and main text

- Each session is devoted to a core topic. Prior to each session a main text connected to that topic has to be read by every participant as a basis for discussion.

Session chair and presentation

- Each participant has to prepare and moderate 1 session. This can include designing assignments, developing thesis, raising critique or formulating questions in connection to the main text in order to stimulate the discussion. The session can also be chaired by a group of 2.
- In addition, each session chair member has to prepare a presentation of max. 15 minutes. The presentation shall deliver additional input by presenting another topic-related paper. Presentations shall be given by one person only.
- Session chairs have to consult with the course instructor one week prior to the session during office hours.

Exam options

- Students of MA Soziologie module A.6: presentation (1/3) and term paper (2/3)
- Students of MA Soziologie module C.1.1 A: term paper or oral exam
- Students of MA EBF: term paper related to Bildungssoziologie Basismodul
Sessions and Topics

Session 1: Introduction

Session 2: Approaching the Topic


Session 3: Human Capital

read: Becker (1962) or Becker (1993), chapters II-IV

additional input presentation:
1) Mincer (1958), Mincer (1974)

additional literature: Becker and Chiswick (1966), Schultz (1963), Schultz (1961)

Session 4: Signalling and Screening

read: Spence (1973)

additional input presentations:
2) Screening theory: Stiglitz (1975)
3) Higher education as a filter: Arrow (1973)


Session 5: Job Competition

read: Thurow (1972) or Thurow (1975), chapters 1-5

additional input presentations:
4) Training costs model: Glebbeek et al. (1989)

additional literature: Thurow (1979)

Session 6: Social Closure

read: Murphy (1988), chapter 8

additional input presentations:
6) Incentive enhancing preferences: Bowles and Gintis (2000), Bowles and Gintis (1976), chap.4-5


Session 7: Labour Market Segmentation

read: Doeringer and Piore (1971), chapters 1-4

additional input presentations:
8) The challenge of segmented labour market theories: Cain (1976)

additional literature: Saint-Paul (1997)
Session 8: Matching Persons to Jobs

*read:* Sattinger (1993)

*additional input presentations:*


Session 9: Labour Market Systems and the Role of Education, Part 1

*read:* Müller and Shavit (1998)

*additional input presentations:*
12) Standardization and stratification: Allmendinger (1989)
13) Organizational vs. occupational spaces: Maurice *et al.* (1980)
14) Internal vs. occupational labour markets: Marsden (1999), Marsden (1990)


Session 10: Labour Market Systems and the Role of Education, Part 2

*read:* Müller and Gangl (2003a), Gangl (2003b)

*additional input presentations:*
17) Returns to education in context: Gangl (2003a)


Session 11: Empirical Studies: Testing Theories

*read:* van de Werfhorst (2011)

*additional input presentation:*
18) Selection process experiment: de Wolf and van der Velden (2001)

Session 12: Graduate Labour Markets

*read:* Leuze (2007)

*additional input presentation:*

Bibliography


