

Written Exam for the B.Sc. or M.Sc. in Economics summer 2015

Economic Sociology

Final Exam/ Elective Course/ Master's Course

27th of June/28th of June

This exam question consists of 1 page in total

Please note that the language used in your exam paper must correspond to the language of the title for which you registered during exam registration. I.e. if you registered for the English title of the course, you must write your exam paper in English. Likewise, if you registered for the Danish title of the course or if you registered for the English title which was followed by “eksamen på dansk” in brackets, you must write your exam paper in Danish.

If you are in doubt about which title you registered for, please see the print of your exam registration from the students' self-service system.

The paper must be uploaded as one PDF document (including the standard cover and the appendices). The PDF document must be named with exam number only (e.g. '1234.pdf') and uploaded to Absalon.

Focus on Exam Cheating

In case of presumed exam cheating, which is observed by either the examination registration of the respective study programmes, the invigilation or the course lecturer, the Head of Studies will make a preliminary inquiry into the matter, requesting a statement from the course lecturer and possibly the invigilation, too. Furthermore, the Head of Studies will interview the student. If the Head of Studies finds that there are reasonable grounds to suspect exam cheating, the issue will be reported to the Rector. In the course of the study and during examinations, the student is expected to conform to the rules and regulations governing academic integrity. Academic dishonesty includes falsification, plagiarism, failure to disclose information, and any other kind of misrepresentation of the student's own performance and results or assisting another student herewith. For example failure to indicate sources in written assignments is regarded as failure to disclose information. Attempts to cheat at examinations are dealt with in the same manner as exam cheating which has been carried through. In case of exam cheating, the following sanctions may be imposed by the Rector:

- 1. A warning
- 2. Expulsion from the examination
- 3. Suspension from the University for a limited period or permanent expulsion.

The labour market has a special status in the discussion of how markets work. Marx emphasised how the theory of surplus value would influence the relationship between workers and capitalist in the labour market. Durkheim emphasised how the extended use of work sharing in the industrial society was a challenge in relation to getting some kind of order in society. More modern economic sociological theories have looked into the role of social networks in relation to recruitment of workers and tried to understand how an organised labour market with trade unions and wage negotiations between unions and employers organisations function.

Explain in more general terms the view on markets in economic sociology, how does markets appear, how does they function and how order is achieved in markets according to economic sociology – and relate this more specifically to how labour markets function. Compare the outcome of markets interaction between workers and capitalist and how order is achieved or not as it is presented by e.g. Marx and Durkheim in their theories with the presentation of market interaction and market order in more modern theories like e.g. Bourdieu, Granovetter and Aspers.

Discuss if and how aspects of more modern theories from economic sociology can be useful in the understanding of interactions in the labour market.

Guidelines for answering the questions:

The first part of the exam question on the more general view on markets in economic sociology could mention the role of markets in Marx' theory and the role of work sharing mentioned by Durkheim – and should on top of that draw on Granovetter's embeddedness theory and Aspers theory on how markets appear and how order is achieved in markets. The use of Bourdieu and his 'field' concept is also relevant. The relation of the more general presentation of how markets are viewed in economic sociology to how the labour market is viewed could contain the presentation of concepts like 'the balkanisation of the labour market' and 'segmented labour markets'. Network theory is core as part of the explanation of how markets work in economic sociology and the concept of internal labour markets and the extended internal labour market is an important application of network theory in relation to the labour market.

In the discussion of how more modern theories from economic sociology can be useful in the understanding of interactions in the labour market the concept of embeddedness can be used together with an interpretation of how the institutionalisation of markets – as emphasised by economic sociology – could look like in relation to the interactions that take place in the labour market.