

A Good Disruption – Reinventing Economical Models (7,5 ECTS credits)

Level: 1st cycle

Discipline: THEOLOGY (Theological Studies in Culture and Society), PHILOSOPHY

Course ID: 0368

Admission requirements

General admission requirements for university studies. Students taking part in the course as a part of their Bachelor's degree program must have completed Course A, Introduction in Philosophy and Theology (30 ECTS credits). Students taking part in the course as a freestanding course are expected to have corresponding prior knowledge.

Educational goals

After having completed the course the students are expected to:

- Exhibit an understanding of the general structure of reform discussions: why change should happen, how change should happen and who should define the goals and means.
- Be able to discuss the relationship between ethics and politics in relation to a number of influential philosophers and theorists from different eras and contexts.
- Be able to discuss, assess and problematize the relationship between the modern monetary system, the market economy, and modern Western political systems.
- Display an in-depth understanding how cultural and philosophical traditions and narratives shape our present discussions on a sustainable economy and on the way forward.

Course content

The socio-environmental crisis is thought to comprise many elements, from environmental degradation, resource depletion, and anthropogenic global warming, to financial and social breakdown. While the experts have been talking much about possible solutions when looking into the future, only a few have looked back to understand where things went wrong. In this course we will search for insights into how the world economy's dysfunctions came to be, but also look into recent suggestions for transforming the economy based on principles harmonious with Catholic social teaching and pope Francis's call to reflection and action in *Laudato Si'*. A diverse set of readings include extracts from classical philosophical works, studies in social anthropology, and examples of recent contributions to the discussion on ecological transformation of the global market economy.

Teaching and examination

Obligatory attendance (80%) and participation in class. Examination will consist of a final essay.

Bibliography

David Graeber, *Debt – The First 5000 Years, Revised and Expanded Edition*, Melville House Publishing, 2014.

Collection of shorter texts, ~250 pages [in PDF format on Moodle]

See also "Kursplaner: allmänna bestämmelser" (Course plans: General rules)

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Valid as 2023-07-15