

Doctoral Program "Ethics and Responsible Leadership in Business"

COURSE I MARKETS WITHOUT LIMITS

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| Lecturer | Prof. Dr. Ingo Pies, Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg |
| Date Time | 24/11/2023 9:00-18:00 18/01/2024 9:00-18:00 |
| Location | Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg Von-Seckendorff-Platz 1, 06120 Halle (Saale) Room tba |
| Credits | 5 (for WCGE students) 6 (for HHL students) |

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| Learning Objectives and Outcomes | Ph.D. candidates should read the book and form their own opinion. During the course, they learn to distinguish analytical interpretation from critical evaluation. In likewise fashion, they become familiar with understanding and criticizing positive as well as normative arguments. Based on the practical syllogism, they learn to complement downstream with upstream reasoning. Furthermore, they become familiar with distinguishing between semiotic and non-semiotic arguments. In sum, this course offers to improve one's techniques for text analysis and text discussion while at the same time providing an overview of the most important arguments for and against markets. |
| Content | In recent years, prominent academics like Michael Sandel have criticized the tendency of markets to commodify human relations. They argue that some things should not be for sale, and they emphasize what money can't buy. As a consequence, they call for limiting the extent of the market in modern society. In doing so, they argue from the vantage point of (ancient, Aristotelian) virtue ethics. This has prompted critical reactions, both from economists and philosophers. Recently, Jason Brennan and Peter Jaworski devoted a whole book to repudiating and countering the numerous arguments by virtue ethicists. Their perspective might seem unfamiliar, and hence especially informative and surprising, which makes reading their book an intellectual event – irrespective of whether you agree with them or not. – This course introduces the moral debate and examines the political relevance of the topic: |

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| | Should kidneys be for sale? Should we legalize drugs? Should prostitution be prohibited? Should we restrict suicide assistance to not-for-profit organizations? Should we outlaw surrogate motherhood? |
| Teaching Methods | <p>The first day of this seminar will be a mixture of text reconstruction and discussion.</p> <p>(a) The main part of the day will concentrate on reconstructing the whole book. Ph.D. candidates should be able to introduce any of the 23 book chapters with a short (1-2 minutes) summary of the main thoughts.</p> <p>(b) The second part of the day is reserved for criticisms. We will have an open discussion on the strengths and weaknesses of this book by Brennan and Jaworski.</p> <p>The second day of this seminar will be devoted to presentations and discussions.</p> |
| Application, combination and frequency | Block seminar |
| Conditions for Credit Points and grades | <p>Conditions for obtaining the Credit Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Careful reading of the literature provided in advance - Active participation in class - Short introductory summaries - Homework presentation - Short seminar paper <p>Grading: to be announced</p> <p>Homework for second day of the seminar (individual power point presentation, max 15 min):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please, reconstruct a public argument against markets. • Distinguish between semiotic and non-semiotic objections. • Try to formulate a convincing counter-argument. • Reflect whether your counter-argument runs upstream or downstream, or both. |

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| | <p>Please hand in your presentation (ppoint or pdf) by January 15th 2024 to tatjana.arnold@wcge.org</p> <p>After having received feedback on your presentation, a short seminar paper (6-8 pages) has to be written that formulates your core arguments.</p> <p>Please hand in your seminar paper (pdf) by March 1st 2024 to tatjana.arnold@wcge.org</p> |
| Literature | <p>Required reading (will be provided in advance):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandel, Michael (2009): Justice. What's the Right Thing to Do?, New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, chapter 1: "Doing the Right Thing", pp. 3-30. • Brennan, Jason und Peter M. Jaworski (2016): Markets Without Limits. Moral Virtues and Commercial Interests, New York und Abingdon: Taylor & Francis. <p>Please read the first text as an appetizer and then carefully study the second text.</p> <p>Additional Reading (not required):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandel, Michael (2013): Market Reasoning as Moral Reasoning: Why Economists Should Re-engage with Political Philosophy, in: Journal of Economic Perspectives 27(4), pp. 121-140. • Bruni, Luigino und Robert Sugden (2013): Reclaiming Virtue Ethics for Economics, in: Journal of Economic Perspectives 27(4), pp. 141–164. • Clark, Jeff R. und Dwight R. Lee (2011): Markets and Morality, in: Cato Journal 31(1), pp. 1–25. |
| Registration | <p>Until October 9, 2023 via tatjana.arnold@wcge.org</p> <p>(Registering after this date might be possible upon request)</p> |