



# 'Introduction to the German Economy'

Seminar for Incoming Exchange Students at the Department of Economics

- Professor/Lecturer: **Dr. Sarah Weise**
- Course Type: **Seminar**
- Cycle: **Winter term 2024/25**
- ECTS-Points: **6**
- Language: **English**
- Exam: **Seminar presentation & essay**
- Max. Participants: **25**

**Bachelor students only!**

## Course registration:

Information regarding course online registration will be provided during the 'Welcome & Orientation Meeting' for Incoming Exchange Students at the Department of Economics.

## Syllabus/Course outline:

This course offers a comprehensive introduction to the German economy, examining its structure, key sectors, economic and social policies, and role within the European and global contexts. It also includes a historical perspective to understand the evolution of Germany's economic landscape.

1. Introduction to the German Economy
  - Historical overview
  - Economic development from the 19th century to World War I
  - The Weimar Republic and economic challenges
  - Nazi economy and World War II
2. Post-War Economic Recovery and Development
  - The Marshall Plan and economic reconstruction
  - The Wirtschaftswunder (Economic Miracle)
  - Economic policies in East and West Germany

3. The Social Market Economy
  - Origins and principles
  - Implementation in post-war Germany
  - Key figures: Ludwig Erhard and others
  - Impact on economic growth and social welfare
4. Economic Structure
  - Industrial & service sectors
  - SMEs and the Mittelstand
5. Economic Policies and Institutions
  - Monetary policy: role of the Bundesbank and ECB
  - Fiscal policy: government budgeting and taxation
  - Labor market policies and social welfare systems
6. Germany in the European Union
  - Economic integration and the Eurozone
  - Germany's role in EU economic policy-making
7. Germany in the Global Economy
  - Trade and international relations
  - Germany's position in global markets

**Course outline might be subject to change!**