

state exam

The state exam covers knowledge in a range of the core courses. The state exam is in the form of a written test (90 min.) followed by an oral exam (approx. 30 min.). Five stylized problems will be formulated from the published topics. There will be 2 to 3 exam dates each exam period. Students must obtain at least 75 out of 100 points from the test to be admitted to the oral exam. During the oral exam, the students will choose 2 topics and will discuss them with the state exam committee. All students admitted to the oral exam automatically pass the state exam with the final grade (ranging from „good“ to „excellent“) to be based on their performance during the oral exam.

how to get in?

To get in you have to show your interest and pass a simple creativity test. For the test dates please contact the supervisor of the minor.

further information

Any of the lecturers will be happy to supervise your bachelor or master thesis on any topic covered in their supervised or taught courses. If you are interested in more information and the conditions of the supervision, please send to your selected lecturer a writing sample (any paper you authored) and a description of your research topic.

For further and up-to-date information about the minor please contact the supervisor of the minor and regularly visit the webpage of the department of institutional economics at <http://kie.vse.cz>.

who are we?

Petr Koblovsky, Ph.D., LL.M., LL.M. (Yale) is an assistant professor and a supervisor (guarantor) of the minor specialisation.

Petr holds diplomas from several universities, including Charles University in Prague and Yale Law School. He also spent one year as a visiting scholar at Harvard Law School. He has extensive experience of lecturing at universities as well as working as a commercial lawyer. His research interests include law and economics of property and contracts, behavioral economics and moral psychology.

Petr Houdek, Ph.D. candidate is a lecturer and a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Economics, Faculty of Economics. He also works as an assistant at the Department of Economics at the University of Jan Evangelista Purkyně in Ústí nad Labem. As a Ph.D. candidate he is also involved in research on “reasons why people cooperate and punish each other” at the Department of Evolutionary and Theoretical Biology at the Faculty of Natural Sciences, Charles University in Prague. His economic research involves experimental and behavioral economics, particularly in the areas of decisionmaking on health issues, finance or partner selection. He regularly publishes articles on behavioral economics research in the newspapers.

Marek Vranka, Ph.D. candidate is a recent graduate from the MSc equivalent program in Psychology at Charles University in Prague and from the MBA program at the University of Economics, Prague. He has more than five years of experience with methodological consultations and data analysis in projects ranging from neuropsychology to psychodiagnostics. His main research interests are automatic moral judgments and heuristics as well as biases in therapeutic context. His most recent and ambitious project involves setting up the first modern experimental psychology laboratory at Charles University in Prague. He is a Ph.D. candidate at both Charles University and the University of Economics.



5 BE

Economics and psychology

minor specialisation



what is it all about?

The minor specialisation is designed to provide a detailed overview of the current knowledge of behavioral sciences (economics, psychology, cognitive sciences, biology, etc.) while placing a particular emphasis on analysing all topics from the economic perspective. The students will acquire knowledge of modern theories of cognition, decision making and human behavior. Apart from multidisciplinary theoretical insights the students will be involved in experimental research, statistical data processing and data interpretation.

The graduates will be capable of taking a professional stand on complex economic problems and on various motives of human behavior. They will also be able to apply their knowledge and insights in proposing, analysing and evaluating various public policies.

The knowledge and analytical skills, which the graduates shall acquire can be utilised in the areas of management, marketing and advertising, consulting as well as media. The graduates will, however, also become excellent candidates for positions in the public sector, international organizations as well as academic and research institutions.

We will teach you to analyse, use and utilise your brain.



core courses

Economics and Psychology (5IE312)

The course provides an introduction to the psychology of economic decision-making. We will analyze experimental and real data to see how psychological phenomena may influence the behavior of individuals as well as the dynamics of entire economies.

Behavioral Law and Economics (5IE405)

The course presents theories of behavioral (psychological) economics as applied on legal theory and legal interpretation. Behavioral analysis of particular regulations will also be compared to the mainstream approach of law and economics (based on the rational choice model).

Behavioral Economics (5IE412)

The course presents an intermediate and advanced insights into the interdisciplinary field "economics and psychology". Important empirical issues, behavioral patterns and curious experimental evidence will be explained on the basis of the behavioral economics models. Attention will be addressed to experimental methodology as well as advantages and limitations of modern economic hypotheses.

Experimental Methods in Economics (5IE313)

In this course, the students will be presented applied methods of experimental and behavioral economics. The emphasis will be on familiarising students with rules of experimental designs, quantitative analysis of the data, and interpretation of results and critical analysis of the gain findings. Students will learn to apply basic statistical methods in their own experimental designs and create their own experimental models.

optional courses

Neuroeconomics Seminar (5IE413)

The seminar outlines current research in neuroscience (and, more generally, in biology) in the field of economic decision-making. Its main goal is to put findings of neuroscience into the context of economic theory. Discussions about methodological difficulties in the interpretation of physiological facts in economics will be an integral part of the seminar.

Health Economics (5IE415)

The course will highlight the main problems of current systems of public health and medical care in the context of modern theories of consumer decision making and economics of organization. The main goal of the course is to teach students to understand the main problems in organizations, efficiency and financing of the public health sector at the level of simple patterns of particular agents (patients, medical staff, politicians, bureaucrats, and the health sector in general).

other optional courses

Economics of Religion (5IE410)

Chapter from Experimental Economics (5EN481)

Principles of Experimental Economics (5EN373)

Game Theory (5EN404)

Advanced Experimental Economics (EN573)

Regulation of Vice (5EN777)

Foundations of Neurosciences (4IT420)

Cognitive Science (5FI404)

The "other optional courses" are not supervised by the supervisor of the minor and hence are subject to unpredictable changes and possible replacements by more suitable courses or courses "in the pipeline" such as Behavioral Finance, Economics of Sex and Behavioral Economics of Organizations.