

Economic Change in the Arab Region (ECAR)

Joint International Master's Programme by



DAAD



CALL FOR LECTURERS

Application Deadline:
31 May 2009

Introduction:

ECAR is a new Master's programme that will be taught partly in Marburg, Germany and partly in Damascus, Syria. The programme aims at providing high quality teaching and supervision. We would like to encourage submissions of proposals from qualified lecturers who come from the Arab region to hold one of the modules listed below.

Time schedule:

Courses will take place in Damascus from August 2009 till March 2010. They can either take place regularly during the Semester (preferred version) or in blocked form. The typical number of contact hours is 30 (except if stated otherwise) for a course component of 3 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System, 1 ECTS is roughly equivalent to a workload of 30 hours for an average student who wants to achieve average marks).

Requirements:

We expect the following:

- Lecturers must have excellent academic credentials (minimum requirement: Ph.D.) and a proven record that their knowledge in the respective field is up-to-date.
- Since courses will be taught in English, lecturers must have an English language proficiency at a level that is equivalent to at least B2 in the common European framework of reference for languages.
- We expect substantial teaching experience and, if available, above average teaching evaluations.
- Work experience in an international context will be an advantage.

Remuneration:

The flat rate remuneration for giving a course with 30 (60) contact hours is 2100 Euro (3500 Euro). In the presemester, short courses are given that amount to 8 (4) contact hours. These are remunerated with 600 Euros (300 Euros). This includes all activities necessary for a successful undertaking of such a course, in particular lecturing, supervision, examinations, and course-specific administration. No extra funds are available to cover travelling costs. However, within limits, additional money is available to finance specific course needs, e.g. special teaching material or excursions.

Selection process:

Selection will be strictly based on the merits of the respective candidates for the purposes of the programme. Promising candidates will be invited for an interview taking place at Damascus University. The selection panel will consist of lecturers from Marburg and Damascus University, and, perhaps, a DAAD representative.

Application process:

Please fill out the form available at http://www.uni-marburg.de/fb02/ecar/Download/Lecturers_questionnaire and send it to ecar@wiwi.uni-marburg.de stating “call for lecturers”. Additionally, send a CV, list of publications, overview of teaching experience, and proof of English language competency.

Application deadline is **31 May 2009**.

Please take a look at the programme website (www.uni-marburg.de/ecar). Do not hesitate to contact one of the programme coordinators in case of any queries!

Programme coordinators:

Marburg: Prof. Dr. Bernd Hayo, hayo@wiwi.uni-marburg.de,
Prof. Dr. Michael Kirk, kirk@wiwi.uni-marburg.de
Damascus: Dr. Raslan Khadour, rkhadour@scs-net.org
Dr. Abed Fadlieh, Bavaria@scs-net.org

List of Courses

Please note:

- State clearly the course you are applying for in your cover letter.
- The lecture period gives you a time frame within which the course needs to take place. There is some flexibility with regard to the actual time schedule but, of course, there cannot be any overlap between the different modules.
- Key references should give you an idea of what we expect to be covered in the module though they are not compulsory.

Overview of courses:

1. 0 1: Arab region: Political, cultural, and social background
2. 0 2: Germany: Political, cultural, and social background
3. 0 3: Introduction to inter-cultural communication
4. A 1: Introduction to Arab Economies
5. A 2: European Economic Integration
6. B 1: Microeconomics
7. B 2: The Macroeconomic Environment
8. C 1: Organizational Theory
9. C 2: Corporate Governance
10. C 3: Seminar: New Public Management
11. D 1: Inter-cultural Understanding, Communication and Negotiation
12. D 2: Project: Developing Arab-European Co-working Strategies

More detailed course descriptions:

Presemester

Course 0 1: Arab region: Political, cultural, and social background

Teaching requirements: 8 contact hours.

Lecture period: 1 August– 30 September 2008

German students should receive a compact introduction into important aspects of Arab history and culture, as well as a summary of important features of the political and social system.

0 2: Germany: Political, cultural, and social background

Teaching requirements: 8 contact hours.

Lecture period: 1 August 2008 – 30 September

Arab students should receive a compact introduction into important aspects of German history and culture, as well as a summary of important features of the political and social system.

0 3: Introduction to inter-cultural communication

Teaching requirements: 4 contact hours.

Lecture period: 1 August 2008 – 30 September

Module A: The Arab- European Context (6 ECTS)

This module contains an up-to-date overview of core topics related to the economic development of the Arab region and the process of European integration. In addition to presenting the relevant theoretical concepts, questions of economic policy are also discussed.

Course A 1: Introduction to Arab Economies

Teaching requirements: 3 ECTS, 30 contact hours.

Lecture period: 15 October 2008 – 28 February

1. The Arab economic region
2. Historical economic development
3. Towards homogenous sub-regions
4. Competing economic models
5. Economic policy issues
6. Challenges and outlook

Key reference:

Noland, M. and H. Pack (2007), *The Arab Economies in a Changing World*, Washington: Institute of International Economics.

Course A 2: European Economic Integration

Teaching requirements: 3 ECTS, 30 contact hours.

Lecture period: 15 October 2008 – 28 February

1. Aims, processes, and history of economic integration
2. EU Institutions
3. Real economic integration: Factor mobility and common market
4. Monetary economic integration: European Monetary Union, European Central Bank and fiscal policy restraints
5. Challenges and outlook

Key references:

Baldwin, R. and C. Wyplosz (2006), *European Economic Integration*, 2nd, London: McGraw Hill.

Module B: Managerial Economics (9 ECTS)

This module contains an up-to-date overview of core topics of Managerial Economics. The course provides core theoretical concepts to foster the understanding of rational actors in firms and households. Rigorous analytical methods will be introduced, in particular economic optimisation under different forms of constraints. The impact of different market structures on firm decisions will also be discussed. Finally, it is studied how uncertainty about the economic environment influences the decision making at the level of the firm, reflecting the fact that managerial decisions take place within a changing macroeconomic environment. The second part of the module discusses important macroeconomic concepts and studies their implications for economic actors. In addition, important economic policy issues are being examined.

Course B 1: Microeconomics

Teaching requirements: 6 ECTS, 60 contact hours.

Lecture period: 15 October 2008 – 28 February

1. Rational economic behaviour
2. Household decision making under constraints
3. Firm decision making under constraints
4. Market equilibrium
5. Market structures and economic behaviour
6. Optimisation under uncertainty

Key reference:

Varian, H. (2005), *Intermediate Microeconomics*, 7th ed., Norton.

Course B 2: The Macroeconomic Environment

Teaching requirements: 3 ECTS, 30 contact hours.

Lecture period: 15 October 2008 – 28 February

1. Measuring the economy
2. Determinants of long-run macroeconomic equilibria
3. Understanding economic growth
4. Understanding the business cycle
5. Monetary and fiscal policy
6. Macroeconomic problems: Unemployment, inflation, and government debt

Key reference:

Mankiw, N.G. (2006), *Macroeconomics*, 6th ed., Worth Publishers.

Module C: Change Management (9 ECTS)

This module contains an up-to-date overview of core topics of Change Management. Economic transition involves change at all levels of the economy. First, it is necessary to understand fundamental aspects of how to organise a system, which involves both static and dynamic aspects. Second, governing economic organisations is a key aspect in the successful transformation of business structures. Third, these aspects do not only apply to private but also public organisations, which tend to lag behind in terms of modern management.

Course C 1: Organizational Theory

Teaching requirements: 3 ECTS, 30 contact hours.

Lecture period: 15 October 2008 – 28 February

1. Organization and Environment
2. Organizational Social Structure
3. Technology
4. Organizational Culture
5. The Physical Structure of Organizations
6. Organizational Power, Control and Conflict

Key reference:

Hatch, M.J. and A.L. Cunliffe (2006), *Organization Theory*, Oxford University Press.

Course C 2: Corporate Governance

Teaching requirements: 3 ECTS, 30 contact hours.

Lecture period: 15 October 2008 – 28 February

1. What is a corporation?
2. Shareholders: Ownership
3. Directors: Monitoring
4. Management: Performance
5. International Governance
6. Case studies

Key reference:

Monks, R.A.G. and N. Minow (2003), *Corporate Governance*, 3rd ed., Wiley.

Course C 3: Seminar: New Public Management

Note: A seminar provides students with the opportunity to develop their writing skills in one or more essays that will then be presented and discussed in class. This requires much less teaching input by the lecturer, who instead must focus on helping students to structure their papers, find the right background readings, and give feedback on presentations.

Teaching requirements: 3 ECTS, 30 contact hours.

Lecture period: 15 October 2008 – 28 February

Some (general) background reading for seminar papers:

Barzelay, M. (2001), *The New Public Management: Improving Research and Policy Dialogue*, University of California Press.

Brudney, J.L., L.J. O'Toole, and H.G. Rainey (2001), *Advancing Public Management*, eds., Georgetown University Press.

Ferlie, E., L.E. Lynn, and C. Pollitt (2007), *The Oxford Handbook of Public Management*, eds., Oxford University Press.

Lane, J.-E. (2000), *New Public Management*, Routledge.

Lynn, L (2006), *Public Management: Old and New*, Routledge.

Module D: Inter-cultural Communication and Negotiation (6 ECTS)

This module contains an introduction to important topics related to inter-cultural communication and negotiation. It explores the key concepts of communication and culture, addressing group barriers that make such communication challenging. It discusses various dimensions of culture and shows how to interpret language across different cultures. Students acquire valuable verbal and nonverbal communication and negotiation skills and learn to communicate in unfamiliar settings.

Course D 1: Inter-cultural Understanding, Communication and Negotiation

Teaching requirements: 3 ECTS, 30 contact hours.

Lecture period: 15 October 2008 – 28 February

1. Culture as context for communication
2. Communication variables
3. Cultural values
4. Cultures within cultures
5. Inter-cultural negotiation

Key reference:

Jandt, F.E. (2006), *An Introduction to Inter-cultural Communication*, 5th ed., Sage.

Course D 2: Project: Developing Arab-European Co-working Strategies

Note: A project provides students with practical applications of inter-cultural competences. It is much more based on student participation than typical lecture courses. Teams of German and Arab students develop schemes that will help Arab students to effectively communicate with Europeans and vice versa. This course should also prepare students for the team work necessary for successfully mastering the internship/thesis in the last Semester.

Teaching requirements: 3 ECTS, 30 contact hours.

Lecture period: 15 October 2008 – 28 February

Background reading:

Carte, P. and C. Fox (2004), *Bridging the Culture Gap: A Practical Guide to International Business Communication*, Kogan Page.

Hogan, C. (2007), *Facilitating Multicultural Groups: A Practical Guide*, Kogan Page.

Mulholland, J. (1991), *The Language of Negotiation: A Handbook of Practical Strategies for Improving Communication*, Routledge.