

## **Курс по выбору: Поведенческая и экспериментальная экономика (на англ. языке) – Behavioral and Experimental Economics**

### **General information about the course:**

This course is an introduction to Behavioral and Experimental Economics. Behavioral Economics has emerged as a discipline studying situations in which the behavior of people does not correspond to the predictions of standard economic theory. Mainstream economics is based on several assumptions. First, economic agents are assumed to maximize their own utility. Second, agent's behavior is not influenced by social or emotional factors. Third, agents have unlimited cognitive abilities allowing them to choose optimally from all available alternatives. Since 1970s researchers have accumulated a lot of evidence showing that the *observed* human behavior is at odds with what is predicted based on these assumptions. People often make "irrational" choices with respect to their insurance, saving plans, health, participation in lotteries, etc. In this course we will consider the new concepts that help to explain the observed anomalies of human behavior. Since large part of these anomalies has been detected with the help of economic experiments, we will spend a lot of time discussing this methodology and its examples.

### **Course goals and learning objectives:**

This course has several learning objectives. First of all, it aims at developing interdisciplinary thinking. Behavioral Economics (broadly defined) combines knowledge from several disciplines, such as Economics, Psychology, Sociology and Neuroscience. Students will learn how to formalize the concepts from social sciences outside Economics (e.g., fairness, reciprocity, trust, envy etc.) and how to incorporate them into economic models. Second, the course is focused on understanding what is an economic experiment. Students will discover various types of experiments (lab, field, natural, etc.) and learn how to use experiments to test economic theories. Finally, the course helps to develop critical thinking with respect to the results of economic research. Students will have a chance to train their ability to be conscious readers of economic studies and integrate evidence from various sources.

### **Who can benefit from this course?**

This course is for anyone who wants to broaden their understanding of human economic behavior. Since Behavioral Economics gets more and more incorporated into many areas of economic research anyone has a chance to come across its basic notions in their field of interest. The course implies that you have taken a course in Microeconomics as well as a course in calculus and statistics.

Курс ведет PhD, доцент **Евдокимов П.А.**

Видео-презентация курса <http://video.hse.ru/video/1527>