

*Title and Code of Course:*

**Introduction to Social Network Analysis: Theoretical Basics and Applications  
ERP-B-SZOC 9116**

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Credit Point Value: <b>6</b>	Number of Lessons per Week: <b>2</b>	Type of Course: <b>Seminar</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Lecture</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	Method of Evaluation: <b>Oral Examination</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>In-Class Presentation</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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**Course Description:**

Networks are omnipresent in societies. Still, their importance and visibility have increased tremendously with the presence of the Internet and online social media. Understanding the emergence and functioning of social networks is a major challenge for the social sciences, as well as for policy-makers.

Studying social networks usually involves a variety of disciplines including sociology, economics, political science, psychology and anthropology. Network science has also a solid mathematical foundations upon which large-scale empirical research can be built. However, its basics are also very well accessible for social science students. Acquiring this knowledge enables to understand a broad range of network phenomena that influence daily lives in our societies.

The course provides an introduction to network studies. It gives a solid understanding on the network basics. A special emphasis is given to the discussion of the fit between theory and real-world applications. How do contagious diseases, hypes, gossips, opinions spread on networks? How do we close ourselves into 'information bubbles', and with which methods can fresh information penetrate these bubbles? Which network positions give extra power for the incumbents and which network nodes are peripheral in importance?

The class is composed of two types of seminar sessions. In the first, theoretical basics are communicated, which are followed by the joint discussion of examples and applications. During the other seminar type, students present influential network papers assigned to them. The presentations are followed by the tutor's update and joint discussion.

## Bibliography

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