## Institute for **New Economic Thinking**

Course Description

### **Evolutionary Economics**

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YSI Workshop Antalya @ Turkish Economic Association Conference Antalya, Turkey 16-17 October 2014

### 16 October from 9am to 12.30pm

9am Lecture 1: "The terrain of evolutionary economics"

This lecture will explore the extent of modern "evolutionary" economics, the key works and authors that have been most inspirational for it, its wide influence in theory and policy, and its links with mainstream economics and other disciplines.

11am Lecture 2: "Communality and differences within evolutionary economics"

This lecture will consider the main shared assumptions and concerns within "evolutionary economics" and also show how some internal disputes are founded on different assumptions concerning the objects of study.

### 17 October from 9am to 12.30pm

9am Lecture 3: "Generalizing Darwinism"

This lecture will consider the search for general principles that govern socio-economic evolution. The idea of using generalised Darwinian principles is addressed, along with some objections to this approach.

11am Lecture 4: "The evolution of moral sentiments"

This lecture will address another new strain of thinking within "evolutionary economics" that explores the implications of (broadly Darwinian) evolutionary theory in other disciplines (such as anthropology and psychology) for our understanding of such issues as human motivation and economic organization.

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### Reading

#### **COMPULSORY READING**

Bowles, Samuel and Gintis, Herbert (2005) 'Can Self-Interest Explain Cooperation?' *Evolutionary and Institutional Economics Review*, **2**(1), October, pp. 21-41.

Aldrich, Howard E., Geoffrey M. Hodgson, David L. Hull, Thorbjørn Knudsen, Joel Mokyr and Viktor J. Vanberg (2008) 'In Defence of Generalized Darwinism', *Journal of Evolutionary Economics*, **18**(5), October, pp. 577-96.

Dosi, Giovanni and Nelson, Richard R. (1994) 'An Introduction to Evolutionary Theories in Economics', *Journal of Evolutionary Economics*, 4(3), pp. 153-72.

Hodgson, Geoffrey M. (2013) 'The Evolution of Morality and the End of Economic Man', *Journal of Evolutionary Economics*, published online.

Hodgson, Geoffrey M., Joonas Järvinen and Juha-Antti Lamberg (unpublished) 'The Structure and Evolution of Evolutionary Research: A Bibliometric Analysis of the Literature in Management, Sociology and Economics' (unpublished).

Hodgson, Geoffrey M. and Knudsen, Thorbjørn (2012) 'Generalized Darwinism and Evolutionary Economics: From Ontology to Theory', *Biological Theory*, 2012, **6**(4), pp. 326-337.

Nelson, Richard R. and Winter, Sidney G. (2002) 'Evolutionary Theorizing in Economics', *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, **16**(2), Spring, pp. 23-46.

Stoelhorst, Jan-Willem and Richerson, Peter J. (2013) 'A Naturalistic Theory of Economic Organization', *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, **908**, pp. S45-S56.

Witt, Ulrich (2008) 'What is Specific about Evolutionary Economics?', *Journal of Evolutionary Economics*, **18**, pp. 547-75.

#### **OPTIONAL READING**

Bowles, Samuel and Gintis, Herbert (2011) *A Cooperative Species: Human Reciprocity and its Evolution* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press).

De Waal, Frans B. M. (2006) *Primates and Philosophers: How Morality Evolved* (Princeton: Princeton University Press), pp. 1-25.

Dosi, Giovanni, Freeman, Christopher, Nelson, Richard, Silverberg, Gerald and Soete, Luc L. G. (eds) (1988) *Technical Change and Economic Theory* (London: Pinter).

Dosi, Giovanni and Nelson, Richard R. (1994) 'An Introduction to Evolutionary Theories in Economics', *Journal of Evolutionary Economics*, 4(3), pp. 153-72.

Hodgson, Geoffrey M. (2007) 'Taxonomizing the Relationship between Biology and Economics: A Very Long Engagement', *Journal of Bioeconomics*, **9**(2), August, pp. 169-185.

Hodgson, Geoffrey M. (2013) From Pleasure Machines to Moral Communities: An Evolutionary Economics without Homo Economicus (Chicago: University of Chicago Press).

Hodgson, Geoffrey M. and Knudsen, Thorbjørn (2010) *Darwin's Conjecture: The Search for General Principles of Social and Economic Evolution* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press).

Hodgson, Geoffrey M. and Huang, Kainan (2012) 'Evolutionary Game Theory and Evolutionary Economics: Are they Different Species?' *Journal of Evolutionary Economics*, 22, pp. 345-66.

Joyce, Richard (2006) The Evolution of Morality (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press).

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Klaes, Matthias (2004) 'Evolutionary Economics: In Defence of "Vagueness", *Journal of Economic Methodology*, **11**(3), September, pp. 359-76.

Nelson, Richard R. and Winter, Sidney G. (1982) *An Evolutionary Theory of Economic Change* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press).

Sen, Amartya K. (1976) 'Rational Fools: A Critique of the Behavioral Foundations of Economic Theory', *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, **6**(4), pp. 317-44.