

Report on Bachelor Thesis

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University

Student:	Sára Štěpánová
Advisor:	RNDr. Michal Červinka Ph.D.
Title of the thesis:	The socioeconomic effects of microeconomic teaching

OVERALL ASSESSMENT

The primary objective of the thesis is to investigate whether the current teachings of microeconomics promote self-interest, specifically focusing on the influence of different forms of wording on decision-making. Drawing inspiration from Buchter's (2020), Sára replicates the experiment with slight modifications and focuses on students at Charles University. By comparing the results to the original study, the author seeks to delve deeper into the matter. Furthermore, the author delves into the question of whether first-year and third-year economics students make different decisions, thereby investigating whether exposure to microeconomics courses affects students' decision-making processes. The results obtained do not support the hypothesis that the current teaching of microeconomics fosters selfish behavior. Additionally, the study explores the potential impact of the students' year of study on their decision-making, but the observed effects are not statistically significant.

The motivation for choosing this topic is nicely described, but maybe its importance and further implication can be better developed. The theoretical part of the work is highly commendable, displaying impeccable organization and effectively immersing the reader in the subject matter. The author exhibits an extensive grasp of the topic, evident through the thorough review of numerous studies. Sára did a good job on conducting experiment and further analysis, which is appropriate to the author's level of studies. However, there are some limitations to consider. The study's focus on only 138 respondents from a single university and faculty restricts the generalizability of the findings to a broader population. An online questionnaire may also introduce potential biases or limitations, such as self-reporting bias or limited control over the respondents' environment during completion.

The thesis is of high quality, with a well-structured and well-written format. It adheres to academic standards, including proper language and style, as well as the correct format for graphs and tables. The results of the Turnitin analysis do not indicate significant text similarity with other available sources, affirming the thesis's originality.

I have a few questions:

1. How do individuals perceive the relationship between microeconomics education and real-world decision-making outside of academic settings?
2. Do microeconomic courses that emphasize the importance of ethical considerations and social impact in decision-making result in a greater likelihood of students making altruistic choices in economic scenarios?

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3. How do cultural or contextual factors influence the interpretation and application of self-interest in microeconomics education, and what implications does this have for decision-making behavior?

In my view, this thesis fulfils the requirements for a bachelor thesis at IES, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University. Therefore, I **recommend it for the defense and suggest a grade A.**

SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED:

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Contribution (max. 30 points)</i>	26
<i>Methods (max. 30 points)</i>	25
<i>Literature (max. 20 points)</i>	20
<i>Manuscript Form (max. 20 points)</i>	20
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	91
GRADE (A – B – C – D – E – F)	A

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Mgr. Olesia Zeynalova

DATE OF EVALUATION: 25.05.2023

*Digitally signed (25.05.2023):
Olesia Zeynalova*

Referee Signature

