

---

**Henrik EGBERT<sup>1</sup> & Vanessa MERTINS (Saarbrücken)**

## **Market Experiments – A New Design to Accomodate Students in Large Classroom Environments**

### **Abstract**

Classroom experiments become increasingly important in introductory economics courses, for they facilitate the understanding of complex economic processes. Market experiments – specifically designed for small classes – are widely regarded as vital pedagogic tools when it comes to creating a basic understanding of market mechanisms. The following article illustrates how these and other experiments can be altered to successfully employ them in large classes, as well. The suggested modifications are based on our three-year experience in implementing such experiments in large classroom environments at Saarland University.

### **Keywords**

Classroom experiments, market experiments, introductory economics courses, large classes

## **References**

- Berg, H., Rott, A.** (2001). Ökonomische Experimente: Eine neue Lehrmethode in der Volkswirtschaftslehre. *Wirtschaftswissenschaftliches Studium*, Nr. 2, S. 113-115.
- Chamberlain, E.** (1948). An Experimental Imperfect Market. *Journal of Political Economy*, Vol. 56, No. 2, S. 95-108.
- Frank, B. & Haus, A.** (2003). Introducing Classroom Experiments to Future Secondary School Teachers: Concept and Evaluation. Universität Koblenz-Landau. Landau (Landauer wirtschaftswissenschaftliche Diskussionsbeiträge, No.2, 2003).
- Holt, C.** (1996). Classroom Games: Trading in a Pit Market. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 10, No. 1, S. 193-203.
- Kruse, J., Ozdemir, O. & Thompson, M.** (2005). Market Forces and Price Ceilings: A Classroom Experiment. *International Review of Economics Education*, Vol. 4, Nr. 2, S. 73-86.
- Ruffle, B.** (2003). Competitive Equilibrium and Classroom Pit Markets. *Journal of Economic Education*, Vol. 34, Nr. 2, S.123-137.
- Schuhen, M.** (2005). Ökonomische Experimente (Classroom Experiments). *Sowi-online-Methodenlexikon* (<http://www.sowi-online.de>).

---

<sup>1</sup> e-Mail: [h.egbert@mx.uni-saarland.de](mailto:h.egbert@mx.uni-saarland.de), [v.mertins@mx.uni-saarland.de](mailto:v.mertins@mx.uni-saarland.de)