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**Introduction to U.S. Economic Policy**

*Thurs. 14-16, Room 201  
John F. Kennedy Institute  
Start: 14.4.2005*

**Syllabus**

**14.04.2005** Introduction

**I. Political Actors and Decision Processes**

**21.04.2005**

1. The Business Cycle of the U.S. Economy: National Determinants and International Interdependencies.

**28.04.2005**

2. The Political Economy of the Budget: Political Actors and Decision Processes in the U.S. Economic Policy.
3. The History and Economic Effects of Budget Deficits.

**05.05.2005**

4. Political Business Cycles: Republicans versus Democrats.
5. Economic Voting: Economic Development and Political Responsibility.

**II. Monetary Policy and Financial Markets**

**12.05.2005**

6. The Federal Reserve System: The Institution and the Instruments of Monetary Policy.
7. The Monetary Policy of the Fed in the 1980s and 1990s: A Comparison.

**19.05.2005**

8. An Introduction to the New York Stock Exchange: Institution and Supervision.
9. NASDAQ and ECNs: An Introduction to the Electronic Stock Exchanges of the U.S.

**26.05.2005**

10. A Comparison of the Reasons and Macroeconomic Effects of the Booms and Crashes in 1987 and 2000/2001.

**02.06.2005**

11. Regulation of the U.S. Credit Industry: Geographical Fragmentation and labor Division.
12. Reform of the U.S. Banking System in the 1990s (Riegle-Neal und Gramm Leach Bliley Acts).

### III. Labor Market, Income and Social Security Systems

#### **09.06.2005**

- 13. Unemployment: Statistical Measurement in the U.S.
- 14. A Comparison of Labor Market Regulation in the U.S. and in Germany.

#### **16.06.2005**

- 15. Social Security Legislation in the U.S.: Performance of Social Security.
- 16. Performance of the Welfare Systems and the *Earned Income Tax Credit*.

#### **23.06.2005**

- 17. Poverty in the U.S.: Origins and Statistical Development (1970 – 2000).
- 18. Political Cycles und Income Development.

#### **30.06.2005**

- 19. Measurement and Development of the Income Distribution since the 1970s.
- 20. Determinants of Income Distribution in the U.S.

#### **07.07.2005**

- 21. The Health System in the U.S.: Performance and Reform Approaches.

**08.07.2005 Friday: 14.00 – 16.00 Uhr Repetition Session for Exam**

**14.07.2005 14.15 – 15.15 Final Exam**