

Young Economist Course



at the Goetheanum,
Switzerland, July 17-20, 2008

Young Economist Course

If one wants to teach at a Waldorf school, one can pursue a Waldorf teacher training. If one wishes to be a biodynamic farmer, one can do an internship at a BD-farm. A professional training for Anthroposophical doctors exists in Arlesheim if one desires to be an Anthroposophical doctor. However, there does not seem to be a similar training for economists.

The idea behind the Young Economist Course is to let successful and experienced Anthroposophical businessmen and scholars give a living picture of the Anthroposophical thoughts and practices concerning business and economics. Topics will include the development of living thinking in economics, the law of true price, threefolding, the fundamental social law, the balance between idealism and realism in Anthroposophical business.

The course is especially intended for students who study economics and (young) people who are active in business. However, everyone with a strong interest in economics is welcome to attend.

The international speakers will include Mathieu van den Hoogenband (CEO Weleda), Rudolf Mees (ING), Cornelius Pietzner (Vorstand member), Stephen Usher, and Tiemen Woutersen (Johns Hopkins University). Chantal Heijdeman will lead the eurythmy workshops.

Tiemen and Els Woutersen, Baltimore, USA

General Information:

Course dates: July 17, 18, 19, 20th 2008

Registration deadline: May 31st 2008; limited enrollment.

Location: Nordatelier at the Goetheanum, Dornach, Switzerland

Contact and registration: Els Woutersen at Els_Woutersen@yahoo.com or telephone number + 1 410 563 3791.

Language: The course will be held in English.

Course fee: 440 Swiss francs by May 31st; 470 Swiss francs after May 31st. This includes vegetarian lunches and dinners at Vital Restaurant (Speisehaus), lectures, discussions, eurythmy workshops, eurythmy performance and tours of the Main Hall and the Statue of the Representative of Man.

Breakfast is **not** included but can be purchased in the cafeteria from 8 a.m. onwards. www.speisehaus.ch.

Course fee without meals: 260 Swiss francs by May 31st; 290 Swiss francs after May 31st.

Directions: <http://www.goetheanum.org/79.html?&L=1>

Accommodation:

Accommodation is **not** included. Please book your room directly. The following are recommended:

■ Guest Houses with showers on each floor from 60 CHF (c. 40 Euro):

Haus Friedwart (5 minutes walk to the Goetheanum)

tel: +41 (0)61 706 42 82; www.friedwart.ch

Kloster Dornach tel: +41 (0)61 701 12 72; www.klosterdornach.ch

■ Hotels in Dornach and Arlesheim from 120 CHF (c. 80 Euro):

Hotel Gasthof zum Ochsen, Arlesheim tel: +41 (0)61 706 52 00; www.ochsen.ch

Hotel Eremitage, Arlesheim tel: +41 (0)61 701 54 20; www.eremitage.ch

Hotel Engel, Dornach tel: +41 (0)61 701 96 60; www.hotel-engel.ch

Hotel Jura, Dornach tel: +41 (0)61 706 98 00; www.hoteljura.ch

■ Youth hostels and dormitories:

Butterfly Hostel Arlesheim (from 25 CHF; 20 minutes walk to the Goetheanum)

tel: +41 (0) 61 701 8984; www.hostel-butterfly.ch

Begegnungszentrum (from 26 CHF; 10 minutes walk to the Goetheanum)

tel: +41 (0)61 706 42 82; www.friedwart.ch/1930.html

Basel back pack tel: +41 (0)61 333 00 37; www.baselbackpack.ch

JuHe Basel tel: +41 (0)61 272 05 72; www.youthhostel.ch

■ **Further information:** Goetheanum reception tel: +41 (0)61 706 44 44

Course Schedule:

Thursday

08:00 – 08:45	Registration in Nordatelier at the Goetheanum
09:00 – 10:30	Welcome and lecture by Tiemen Woutersen: “Living Thinking and Economics” Break
11:15 – 12:00	Eurythmy Lunch
14:00 – 14:45	Discussion Group
14:45 – 16:15	Lecture by Mathieu van den Hoogenband: “Between idealism and realism: A firm with micro, meso and macro responsibilities that remains social, economic and spiritual” Break
16:45 – 17:30	Eurythmy Dinner
20:00 – 21:00	Discussion Group

Friday

09:00 – 10:30	Lecture by Stephen Usher: “Where is Mr. Steiner's Hicks?” Break
11:15 – 12:00	Eurythmy Lunch
14:00 – 14:30	Tour of the Main Hall of the Goetheanum by Els Woutersen (optional)
14:45 – 16:15	Lecture by Rudolf Mees: “Insurance and Karma” Break
16:45 – 17:30	Eurythmy Dinner
20:00 – 21:00	Eurythmy performance

Saturday

09:00 – 10:30	Lecture by Cornelius Pietzner: “Working with Money at the Goetheanum--Experiences from a Treasurer” Break
11:15 – 12:00	Eurythmy Lunch
14:00 – 14:30	Tour to the Statue of the Representative of Man by Els Woutersen (optional)
14:45 – 16:15	Lecture by Mathieu van den Hoogenband: “Capital, value, stocks and loans: Ways to finance an ethical company” Break
16:45 – 17:30	Eurythmy Dinner
20:00 – 21:00	Discussion group

Sunday

09:00 – 10:30	Lecture by Tiemen Woutersen: “Brotherhood in Economic Life” Break
11:15 – 12:00	Eurythmy Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	Lecture by Rudolf Mees: “The Emergence of Anthroposophical Banking”
15:30 – 16:00	Discussion group and closing

This program is subject to slight changes.

Presenters:

Mathieu van den Hoogenband is the CEO of the Weleda Group management in Arlesheim/Schwäbisch Gmünd. With its sales of Anthroposophical medicines and natural cosmetics, the turnover of the international Weleda Group broke through the 200 million Euro barrier for the first time in the last financial year. Mathieu has broad international market experience and practical experience in the field of sustainable business. Prior to his work at Weleda Mathieu had years of experience at IBM and publishing companies. He currently lives in Stuttgart, Germany.

Rudolf Mees served at the board of directors of one of the largest banks of the Netherlands. He is also one of the founders of Triodos Bank, an ethical bank that offers savings accounts and investments and finances only projects with social and environmental benefits. He wrote the book “Money for a Better World” in which he discusses the different kinds of money (purchase money, loan money and gift money). He is active in various Anthroposophical organizations and advises Anthroposophical organizations internationally. Rudolf lives in Zeist, the Netherlands.

Cornelius Pietzner attended Waldorf School and received his B.A. (Highest Honors) at Williams College, Massachusetts, USA. He served as Founding President of Camphill Soltane in Pennsylvania from 1988-2001. He is the author and editor of several books and articles, and is active worldwide speaking on themes of social initiatives, community building and contemporary concerns. Mr. Pietzner presently lives in Dornach, Switzerland where he serves on the Executive Council of the General Anthroposophical Society as Treasurer.

Stephen Usher PhD. is the former publisher and manager of Anthroposophic Press in the USA. He is a founding member of the Social Science Section in the US, trustee of the Rudolf Steiner Charitable Trust and former staff economist for the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Currently he is a special consultant to NERA (an economic consulting firm) and works as an independent consultant in economic analysis. He is an author of numerous articles on Anthroposophical topics and financial issues related to the insurance and securities business and lectures frequently on a wide range of Anthroposophical topics. He resides in Austin, USA.

Tiemen Woutersen PhD. attended the Waldorf School in Zeist where his interest in economics started and he wrote a paper about Environmental Pollution and Economic Optimality in grade twelve. He studied economics/econometrics and law at the University of Groningen for three years and later at Brown University, where he received his Ph.D. in economics in 2000. He was an assistant professor at the economic department of the University of Western Ontario, was a visiting professor at MIT and now works at Johns Hopkins University where his research is on unemployment and other duration models. Tiemen lives in Baltimore, USA with his wife Els and is a Trustee of the Rudolf Steiner Charitable Trust and a board member of Heartbeat Life Sharing.

Chantal Heijdeman is an international eurythmist. She graduated from the Academy for Eurythmy of Elena Zuccoli in Dornach in 1992. She was then part of the Eurythmy Ensemble of the Goetheanum for three years. From 1996 onwards she was a member for three years of the Eurythmy Ensemble “Elckerlyc”. She now teaches at the Waldorf School in Driebergen and leads eurythmy workshops including eurythmy workshops at corporations. Moreover, she also leads the amateur group “Curach” and works at the Biography Training in the Netherlands. She lives in Zeist, the Netherlands.