

## **Title of lecture series: “Lectures on Welfare Economics”**

### **Program:**

*Lecture 1.* The economics perspective on social welfare and distributive justice.

*Lecture 2.* Equality, equity, fairness, and justice.

*Lecture 3.* Welfare criteria for optimal policies.

### **Course outline:**

The goal of this lecture series is to provide a bird-eye overview of the role, approaches, and challenges that economists face in the assessment of policy interventions.

Welfare economics has been largely unable to provide economists with satisfactory ways to assess policies. Building on the most recent literature, this lecture series will discuss how to address these difficulties and construct compelling welfare criteria for policy evaluation.

### **Reading list:**

Atkinson, A. B. (1970). On the measurement of inequality. *Journal of Economic Theory*, 2(3), 244-263.

Fleurbaey, M., & Maniquet, F. (2018). Optimal income taxation theory and principles of fairness. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 56(3), 1029-79.

Piacquadio, P. G. (2017). A fairness justification of utilitarianism. *Econometrica*, 85(4), 1261-1276.

Roemer, J. E. (1998). *Theories of distributive justice*. Harvard University Press.

Saez, E., & Stantcheva, S. (2016). Generalized social marginal welfare weights for optimal tax theory. *American Economic Review*, 106(1), 24-45.