Social preferences: Their nature, origins, and implications for public policy

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1. Introduction: Social preferences and why they matter. 2nd December. 17.00 to 20.00
room B 302 - 56, rue des Saints-Pères  Note: readings marked * are background reading
for those who have not previously studied behavioral economics.

Bowles, Samuel. 2012. Machiavelli's Mistake: Why good laws are no substitute for good
citizens. New Haven: Yale University Press, pp 1-12

Bowles, Samuel. 2011. "The impossibility of the liberal trinity: neutrality, liberty, and
efficiency in market exchange." pp1 -11

Bowles, Samuel and Sandra Polanía-Reyes. 2011. "Economic Incentives and Social
Preferences: Substitutes or Complements?" Journal of Economic Literature, in press.
Section 10 ("The lab and the street.")


2. The sophisticated planner's dilemma: mechanism design when preferences depend on
incentives: 5th December 17.00 to 21.00 room D 510 – 199, boulevard Saint-Germain

Bowles, Samuel and Sandra Polanía-Reyes. 2011. "Economic Incentives and Social
Preferences: Substitutes or Complements?" Journal of Economic Literature, in press.

The models summarized in sections 3 and 4 respectively are presented in

Hwang, Sung Ha and Samuel Bowles. 2011. "Optimal incentives with state-dependent
preferences." Santa Fe Institute (which is an extension and generalization of:


3. **Applications: labor economics, international trade and philosophy.** 7th December 17.00 to 20.00 room D 510 – 199, boulevard Saint-Germain Note: participants in the course will present the papers below in the form of a “referee report.”


4. **Origins and prospect: the evolution of a cooperative species and the future of cooperation.** 9th December 08.00 to 10.00 room H 403 – 28, rue des Saints-Pères


