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<b>Title</b>	<b><u>Topics in blockchain governance / a reading seminar</u></b>
<b>Lecturer(s):</b> <b>Contact email address:</b>	<b>Balázs Váradi</b> , associate professor Department of economics and statistics <a href="mailto:balazs.varadi@gmail.com">balazs.varadi@gmail.com</a>
<b>Brief description</b>	This course is taking a hard look at the emerging world of the blockchain technology (also called crypto-economy, or Web3) from the point of view of social welfare and regulation (not mathematics, programming or IT engineering). The course will be a reading course where pairs of students will be asked to take turns to prepare in class presentations and stage in-class debates, interspersed with lectures and hands-on exercises.
<b>Schedule</b>	1 What is the blockchain? 2 What does it solve? Is there a case for it on social welfare grounds? 3 Mining vs. staking – social and onchain effects 4 Are tokens money? 5 Are tokens security? 6 Governance onchain and offchain 7 Bitcoin and crime 8 Scams and fraud from Mt Gox and Bitconnect to decentralized finance to Quadriga to FTX 9 US Regulation 10 EU regulation 11 Blockchain, privacy, free speech and censorship 12 Taxing blockchain-related revenue
<b>Materials/Recommended readings</b>	<b>(To be completed, I am still working on selecting more recent online readings, these are just two traditional textbooks)</b>  Andreas M. Antonopoulos , “Mastering Bitcoin: Unlocking Digital Cryptocurrencies”, O’Reilly Media Inc, 2015 Arvind Narayanan & Goldfeder, S., „Bitcoin and Cryptocurrency Technologies: A Comprehensive Introduction”, Princeton University Press (2016)

<b>Assessment/Exam</b>	Grading will be based on active participation in class and presentations (50%) and an end-of-semester essay on a blockchain-related topic (50%).
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