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**Institutions, Economics, and Academic Measures of Value**

Focusing on Georg Simmel, Thorstein Veblen, and others, this talk examines the semiotic functioning of value, the scientific study of economics, and the creation of “institutional” economics, as the work of Veblen and his followers have come to be known. The time of Veblen was the time of the creation of enormous institutions – especially economic institutions – and this paper examines the institutionalization of value in the particular case of academic institutions and the professionalization of intellectual life with the rise of scientific “research” institutions in the late nineteenth century.