



LUND
UNIVERSITY

School of Economics and Management

NEKN74, Economics: The Chinese Economy, 7.5 credits

Nationalekonomi: Kinas ekonomi, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Economics on 2011-06-07 to be valid from 2011-06-07, autumn semester 2011.

General Information

This is a single subject master course in economics belonging to the "International and Development Economics" specialisation. The course is either obligatory or optional within a number of master programmes at Lund University

Language of instruction: English

Teaching is in English. (Teaching may be in Swedish if all registered students have a good knowledge of Swedish.)

Main field of studies

Economics

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

Students shall have a deep understanding of the following issues:

- the institutional foundations of China's economic reform progress,
- the distinctive features of China's transition process and the emerging system of capitalism,
- the property arrangements building the foundation of China's economic system,
- the dominant theoretical explanations for China's successful transition economy,
- the major determinants of China's economic growth,
- the role play interactions between formal and informal institutions that explain economic transactions in China,

- the factors that pose risks to China's sustainable development in the future.

Competence and skills

Students shall have the ability to:

- independently apply analytical skills to explain China's transition and growth experience,
- in particular apply New Institutional Economic theories in the above analysis,
- give an account of and discuss their knowledge using good written English, improve their reasoning ability and feel familiar when speaking in public speaking and debating controversial issues.

Judgement and approach

Students shall have developed the ability to pursue further studies in the subject and should be able to search for and evaluate information with a high degree of independence. Students shall also have developed the ability to individually write an essay at the master level.

Course content

The goal of the course is to provide a comprehensive overview and understanding of the causal mechanisms explaining the success of China's economic reform strategy. Students will be familiarised with the essential reform elements characterising China's reform agenda since 1978. The objective is to introduce the major theoretical explanations for China's unprecedented growth performance over the last two decades. The course takes an institutional perspective which focuses on the role of the state as an arbiter of institutional change, the building and reform of market institutions, the emergence of different organisational forms and firm types, and the role of social institutions such as formal and informal networks. At the individual level, gender issues will be incorporated in order to clarify to what extent institutional change has affected and changed the socio-economic order during the transition period.

In particular the following topics are included in the course

- The institutional foundations of China's transition
- The role of the state
- The legal system
- Taxation and fiscal federalism
- China's agricultural sector
- China's industrial sector
- The financial market
- The labour market
- State owned enterprises
- Township-village enterprises
- Private firms
- Foreign funded firms
- The role of network relations in transition economies
- Guanxi, kinship ties and networking in China

Course design

1. Teaching: Tuition consists of lectures and a concluding debate.

Assessment

1. Examination: Examination consists of home assignments, participation in the discussion at seminars and a written examination that takes place at the end of the course. There will be further opportunities for examination close to this date. Marks for home assignments and for participation in the discussion at seminars are carried forward to examinations taken the same term.
2. Limitations on the number of examination opportunities: –

The University views plagiarism and other academic dishonesty very seriously, and will take disciplinary action against students for any kind of attempted malpractice in connection with examinations and assessments. Plagiarism is considered to be a very serious academic offence. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other unfair practices in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University for a specified period.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A.

1. Grading: Grade (Definition), Points or percentage out of maximum points, Characteristic
 - A (Excellent), 85–100, A distinguished result that is excellent with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.
 - B (Very good), 75–84, A very good result with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.
 - C (Good), 65–74, The result is of a good standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.
 - D (Satisfactory), 55–64, The result is of a satisfactory standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.
 - E (Sufficient), 50–54, The result satisfies the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought, but not more.
 - U (Fail), 0–49, The result does not meet the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

Students have to receive a grade of E or higher in order to pass a course.
2. Weighting grades from different parts of the course: : –
3. Grading scales for different parts of the course: –

Entry requirements

Students admitted to the Master Programme in International Economics with a Focus on China are qualified for this course. For other students, at least 60 ECTS-credits in economics are required.

Further information

1. Transitional regulations: This course replaces NEKM29 "The Chinese Economy".
2. Limitations in the period of validity: –
3. Limitations: This course may not be included in the same degree as NEK744 "Chinese Economy I" or NEKM29 "The Chinese Economy".
4. Similar courses. –
5. Limitations in renewed examination: –

Subcourses in NEKN74, Economics: The Chinese Economy

Applies from H11

1101 The Chinese Economy, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A