



LUND
UNIVERSITY

School of Economics and Management

EKHB21, Economic History: Growth, Stagnation and Inequality in Africa, 7.5 credits

*Economic History: Growth, Stagnation and Inequality in Africa,
7,5 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå*

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Economic History on 2011-06-07 to be valid from 2011-09-01, autumn semester 2011.

General Information

This is an under-graduate level course and is optional in the second year of the Bachelors Program in Development Studies.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Economic History

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On a general level the student shall acquire knowledge of variations and dynamics of long term institutional, technological and social change in Africa. Specifically students will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate a general understanding of the different theoretical and historiographical perspectives of understanding long-term economic and social change in Africa.
- identify and compare different development trajectories on the continent

Competence and skills

- critically reflect on the links between long-term agriculture performance and economic development, inequality and poverty
- interpret empirical findings and relate these to various theoretical approaches
- perform a comprehensive analysis in oral or written form

Course content

This course gives a deeper presentation of long term trends of economic and social development in Africa, with special focus on the agricultural sector. The course takes its point of departure in current challenges and debates and provides alternative historical explanations to issues of poverty, underdevelopment and inequality. The course emphasizes the diverse historical paths and the importance of Africans in shaping the patterns of change. Themes include: theoretical and historiographical perspectives on Africa's long-term economic and social development; historical obstacles to agricultural transformations and technical and institutional responses to these obstacles; African initiatives and resistance in agriculture and the struggles between African peasant agriculture and European settler agriculture; the colonial legacy; the role of the states and markets as facilitators and/or obstacles to economic growth and structural change.

Course design

Teaching takes place primarily through individual supervision and discussions between the instructor and a small group of students. Most of the course work comprises of the student's own work with readings and assignments.

Assessment

The students are examined both continuously and at the end of the course, The ongoing examination consists of shorter PM:s that must be written before each seminar. The final examination consists of a longer home exam.

The University views plagiarism very seriously, and will take disciplinary actions against students for any kind of attempted malpractice in examinations and assessments. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other unfair practice in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University.

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.

At the School of Economics and Management grades are awarded in accordance with a criterion-based grading scale UA:

- A: Excellent
- B: Very good

C: Good
D: Satisfactory
E: Sufficient
U: Fail

Grade (Definition). Characteristic

A (Excellent). A distinguished result that is excellent with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

B (Very good). A very good result with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

C (Good). The result is of a good standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought and lives up to expectations.

D (Satisfactory). The result is of a satisfactory standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

E (Sufficient). The result satisfies the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought, but not more.

F (Fail). The result does not meet the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

To pass the course, the students must have been awarded the grade of E or higher.

Students who do not obtain grades A-E on their written class room exam will be offered opportunities to retake the exam in which case the student will be assessed according to regular procedure. In the case of home exams that are handed in after the set deadline the teacher can: a) hand out a new exam which will be assessed according to regular procedure, b) may penalize the student by handing out a lower grade on the assignment in question unless the student can demonstrate special circumstances for the delay.

Entry requirements

General requirements for university studies in Sweden

Subcourses in EKHB21, Economic History: Growth, Stagnation and Inequality in Africa

Applies from H11

1101 Growth, Stagnation and Inequality in Africa, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A