

## **EKHE42, Economic History: Emerging Asia - Economic Transformation in East and South East Asia, 7.5 credits**

*Economic History: Emerging Asia - Economic Transformation in East and South East Asia, 7,5 högskolepoäng*  
**First Cycle / Grundnivå**

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### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Economic History on 2011-06-07 and was last revised on 2025-09-15 by Academic Director of Studies at Department of Economic History. The revised syllabus comes into effect 2026-01-19 and is valid from the spring semester 2026.

### **General information**

The course can be studied during the first semester of Economic History at the undergraduate level. It can be included as an optional course in several Bachelor programmes and it can be studied as a single-subject course. It is offered both as the first sub-course in EKHE40 Economic Development in Asia and as an independent course.

*Language of instruction:* English

*Main field of study*      *Specialisation*

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

### **Learning outcomes**

After having passed the course students are expected to be able to:

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

- convey knowledge about long-term development, institutional change and equity as conditions for modern economic growth
- understand the economic transformation of East and Southeast Asia, taking into account major characteristics of the high-performing Asian economies

## Competence and skills

- identify and discuss the extent of development in certain regions and sectors as well as the social outcomes of modernisation in selected countries in Eastern Asia
- present, orally and in writing, analyses of development issues

## Judgement and approach

- Discuss explanatory models and theories addressing the driving forces behind the economic and social process of change, and apply these theories to various historical events, geographical contexts, and stages of development.

## Course content

The content of the course is delimited of both teaching and literature.

A long-term institutional, structural and comparative perspective is applied throughout the course. The course explores and explains the historical processes of rapid industrialisation and socio-economic modernisation in Pacific Asia. First, fundamental factors and forces behind the rise of Asia's first industrial nation, Japan, are analysed. Japan is also contrasted against the early failures of modernisation in Imperial China. Secondly, explanations are provided for the emergence of Taiwan, South Korea, Singapore and Hong Kong as Newly Industrialised Countries after 1960. Thirdly, the more recent industrial development in the ASEAN countries is studied, with particular reference to current trends and forces of globalisation in the region. Themes such as agricultural modernisation, rural industrialisation, expansion of trade, impact of foreign investments and patterns of regional integration are explored and evaluated. Concepts such as developmental state, export-led growth, and growth with equity are employed and critically analysed.

## Course design

The course is designed as a series of lectures, exercises and work with projects reports.

## Assessment

Grading is based on both individual and group performance. The examination consists of three take-home exams, three seminars, and one group presentation as part of a course project. Examination may draw on teaching as well as the course literature.

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

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

## Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: U=Fail, E=Sufficient, D=Satisfactory, C=Good, B=Very Good, A=Excellent

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

Students have to receive a grade of E or higher in order to pass a course.

GRADE	CHARACTERISTIC	CRITERIA
A	Excellent	A distinguished result that is excellent with regard to the following aspects – theoretical depth, relevance for the subject matter, analytical ability and independent thought.
B	Very good	A very good result with regard to the above mentioned aspects.
C	Good	The result is of a good standard with regard to the above mentioned aspects and lives up to expectations.
D	Satisfactory	The result is of a satisfactory standard with regard to the above mentioned aspects and lives up to expectations.
E	Sufficient	The result satisfies the minimum requirements with regard to the above mentioned aspects, but not more.
U	Fail	The result does not meet the minimum requirements with regard to the above mentioned aspects.

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

**Further information**

General admission requirements except for knowledge in Swedish which is not required.

This course was previously labelled EKHE14 or could be studied as part of EKH421/EKHE21/EKHE13 and cannot be included in a degree together with any of these courses.