



School of Economics and Management

EKHM42, Economic History: Institutions, Economic Growth and Equity, 7.5 credits

*Economic History: Institutions, Economic Growth and Equity, 7,5
högskolepoäng*
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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 a graduate level course which is mandatory at the Master's programme as well as the Ph D programme in Economic History. It is optional at the Master's programmes in (1) Economic Demography, (2) Economic Growth, Innovation and Spatial Dynamics, and (3) International Economics with a focus on China.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Economic History

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

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

Learning outcomes

On a general level the student will acquire advanced knowledge about theories of the development of institutions in history and of the interrelationship between institutions and modern economic growth as well as of the empirical relevance of institutional theory to both developed and developing countries.

More specifically, to pass the assessments students will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- analyze the historical development of institutions in the modern world
- make use of institutional theory and concepts in research on economic growth and distribution

Competence and skills

- analyze how (in)equality between individuals in terms of resources and opportunities may have effects on the pace and nature of economic growth and on institutional development.

Judgement and approach

- critically analyze theories of institutions, and their role in long-run economic growth
- assess the development and role of specific institutional arrangements in developed as well as developing countries

Course content

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

Historical evidence suggests that the quality and efficiency of a country's institutions, such as law enforcement, property rights, and civil rights, are significant determinants of its growth performance. Furthermore, the extent of inequality in a society is highly related to both the quality of institutions and economic growth. The latter is particularly relevant for the emergence of public sector institutions for the provision of social security, education and health care. This course studies the relations between institutions, modern economic growth, and equality. Problems in the world of today are taken as a point of departure for an historical analysis that covers countries and regions in different parts of the world. Four themes are focused. The first theme deals with the emergence of institutions such as property rights and markets, and their role for economic growth. The second theme concerns the importance of the distribution of resources for institutional development and economic growth. The third theme is about the interrelationship between institutions, knowledge and equality of opportunity. The fourth theme deals with the emergence of the modern welfare state as an institutional response to inequality.

Course design

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

Assessment

Grading is based on individual performance, via written exams, paper, presentations and other mandatory activities. Attendance at no less than three of four teaching occasions is required. 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 serious academic offence. 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

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

Students accepted for the Master's programmes shortlisted in the parenthesis qualify for this course (Economic History; Economic Growth, Innovation and Spatial Dynamics; Economic Demography; International Economics with a Focus on China). Other students applying for this course should have at least 60 credit points in either economic history, economics, history, economic and social geography, sociology or the equivalent knowledge.

Further information

This course was previously labelled EKHP05 Institutions, Economic Growth and Equity and cannot be included in the same degree as this course. It can also not be combined with the preceding courses EKH482 or the D-level Klassikerkurs in a degree.

Subcourses in EKHM42, Economic History: Institutions, Economic Growth and Equity

Applies from V12

1101 Institutions, Economic Growth and Equity, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A