



School of Economics and Management

EKHM76, Quantifying Economic Growth Through Time, 7.5 credits

Kvantifiering av Ekonomisk tillväxt över tid, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Economic History on 2023-11-09. The syllabus comes into effect 2023-11-09 and is valid from the autumn semester 2023.

General information

This is a graduate level course, which can become part of a Master of Science degree. It is optional at the master's programmes EAETU Economic Growth, Population and Development, EAIGH Innovation and Global Sustainable Development and EAEUT Economic Development and Growth. It can also be studied as a single-subject course.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of study *Specialisation*

Economic History 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 approaches of various disciplines to economic growth. More specifically, to pass the assessments students will:

Knowledge and understanding

- be able to use basic theoretical/ empirical tools to measure/understand the sources of economic growth.
- be able to identify and conduct the appropriate empirical investigation for alternative growth/productivity questions

Competence and skills

- be able to analyze and interpret the theories and findings within the economic growth/productivity literature
- be trained to communicate their own and others' results, both in written and oral format
- be trained to analyse and account for the role of physical capital, human capital, General Purpose Technologies and structural change in production/productivity.
- be trained to handle databases

Judgement and approach

- be trained to assess the relevance and implications of their findings for research as well as policy purposes
- be able to independently read, interpret and assess current research in growth and productivity, as well as advanced professional reports and analyses

Course content

The content of the course is presented through a combination of teaching, literature and learning tools developed by the instructors.

Modern economic growth is often represented by the idea that living standards can continue to rise, despite population growth. This break with the historical norm only occurred within the last three centuries. While we know that technological change is central to this development, other ingredients such as structural change, organizational capacity and improvements in human capital played important roles. Building on the relevant growth models, this course focuses on measuring economic growth since the 1870s. The course will draw upon a wide range of databases that have been developed over the last decade and will consider alternative methods of accounting for economic growth. These will include capturing the levels of productivity within economies, explaining growth via employment shifts between sectors, analyzing the long term economic effects of GPTs (such as steam, electricity and ICT) and considering the implications of population ageing for economic policy.

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 a written examination and the presentation of group exercises.

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.

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: 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) 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 following master's programmes are qualified for this course: EAETU Economic Growth, Population, and Development, EAEUT Economic Growth and Development.

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 cannot be combined with the courses EKHP01, EKHM22 or EKHM63