



LUND
UNIVERSITY

School of Economics and Management

EKHT42, Economic History: Advanced Topics in Economic Development - Explaining Growth and Inequality, 7.5 credits

*Ekonomisk historia: Fördjupningskurs i ekonomisk utveckling -
Förklaringar till tillväxt och ojämlikhet, 7,5 högskolepoäng*
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Economic History on 2017-04-04 to be valid from 2017-08-28, autumn semester 2017.

General Information

This is a graduate level course, which can become one of two mandatory tutorial courses in the second year of the master's program EAETU Economic Growth, Population Studies and Development, track EKUT Economic Development.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Economic History

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On a general level the student will acquire advance knowledge about theories of explaining the relationship between economic growth and inequality as well as to apply those theories on empirical cases and make comparisons. More specifically, students will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Demonstrate familiarity and understanding of theories explaining the relationship between economic growth and long-term inequality trends
- Demonstrate familiarity and understanding of scholarly literature presenting empirical evidence of the relationship between economic growth and long-term inequality trends, both of individual cases and comparative perspectives

Competence and skills

- Apply theories and analytical concepts in the literature of economic growth and long-term trends in inequality on empirical cases and critically examine their contributions and limitations

Judgement and approach

- Make critical use of data addressing different dimensions of inequality trends
- Present and defend theoretically and empirically sound analyses of trajectories in relationships between economic growth and long-term inequality trends

Course content

Investigating and theoretically explain why inequality is so much higher in some countries than in others and what drives changes over the long run are questions that have been central in economic history and economics. Despite the continued scholarly attention, which has included theoretical development as well as the adding of increasing empirical evidence, clear answers are still lacking. Until recently, most studies were concerned with inequality trends in the developed world, albeit there is now a slowly growing literature on the developing South including Asia, Latin America and Africa.

The aim of the tutorial is threefold:

- 1) To provide an in-depth discussion of theoretical perspectives of the long run causal relationships between economic growth and inequality, emanating from structural, political-economy and macro-sociological traditions
- 2) To enable students to analytically and methodologically identify the strengths and weaknesses of the theories
- 3) To teach students how to apply theory to empirical cases

Course design

The course is designed as a series of group meetings. In the first part of the course different theories and empirical evidence is presented through the course literature and later discussed in-depth at meetings. In the second part, students will write a report where they examine the explanatory power of two or more theories applied to a case or cases of choice. The written report is handed in as part of the examination and is given as a presentation to the group.

Assessment

Grading is based on individual performance via written hand-ins, papers, presentations and other mandatory activities. In this tutorial, equal emphasis is put on the active participation in discussions at the group meetings and oral presentations. Examination is continuous. 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. 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

Students accepted for the second year of the master's programme EAETU 'Economic Growth, Population and Development', track EKUT 'Economic Development' and students that have already acquired the equivalent knowledge are qualified for this course.

Subcourses in EKHT42, Economic History: Advanced Topics in Economic Development - Explaining Growth and Inequality

Applies from H17

1701 Explaining Growth and Inequality, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A