

NEKG71, Economics: Development Economics, 7.5 credits

Nationalekonomi: Utvecklingsekonomi, 7,5 högskolepoäng

First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Economics on 2011-06-07 and was last revised on 2023-10-17. The revised syllabus comes into effect 2023-10-17 and is valid from the spring semester 2024.

General information

This is a single subject intermediate course in economics belonging to the 'International and Development Economics' specialisation. The course is optional within a number of undergraduate programmes at Lund University.

Language of instruction: English

In some semesters the course can be taught in Swedish, see the appropriate application catalogue.

Main field of study *Specialisation*

Economics G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

Students should have an in-depth knowledge and understanding of central theories in development economics and of the economic structure and problems of development in poor countries.

Competence and skills

Students shall have the ability to independently:

- develop a deeper understanding of economic theory and the application of economic theory to current problems in developing countries,

- acquire information and data on economic conditions and trends, and to instil an ability to analyse these in a critical manner by using empirical conceptions and tools,
- use analytical economic tools and develop skills in policy analysis related to the development process,
- communicate and explain their analyses and conclusions clearly and concisely in both oral and written form.

Judgement and approach

Students shall have the ability to pursue further studies in the subject and should be able to search for and evaluate information with a high degree of independence. Students shall also have sufficient competence to individually write empirically oriented papers.

Course content

The course begins with development gaps, and the relationships between per capita income and other measures of development. Thereafter it reviews the theories of economic growth and the development process. It focuses on the role of physical, human and social capital, technology and population growth in economic growth. The problems of externalities, co-ordination failure and path dependence are highlighted. Specific attention is paid to the relationships between inequality, poverty and economic growth. Development strategies and policies related to, agriculture, industry, trade & services and infrastructure are discussed together with the role of the state, market and other institutions. A specific gender perspective is taken up in the discussion on population issues, human capital and poverty.

Course design

1. Teaching: Tuition consists mainly of lectures.

Assessment

1. Examination: The examination consists of a written exam and home assignments. The written exam takes place at the end of the course. There will be further opportunities for examination close to this date. Points earned on home assignments can be carried forward to the exam and the re-exam during the same term.

2. Limitations on the number of examination opportunities: –

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

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

1. Grading: Grade (Definition), Points or percentage out of maximum points, Characteristic

A (Excellent) 85-100 points/percent. A distinguished result that is excellent with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

B (Very good) 75-84 points/percent. A very good result with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

C (Good) 65-74 points/percent. 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) 55-64 points/percent. The result is of a satisfactory standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

E (Sufficient) 50-54 points/percent. The result satisfies the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought, but not more.

U (Fail) 0-49 points/percent. 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.

2. Weighting grades from different parts of the course: –

3. Grading scales for different parts of the course: –

Entry requirements

At least 20 ECTS-credits from the introductory course in economics, of which at least 7.5 ECTS-credits in microeconomics are needed for admission till all intermediate courses in economics. A course in basic international economics is recommended.

Further information

1. Transitional regulations: This course replaces NEKB28 "Development Economics".

2. Limitations in the period of validity: –

3. Limitations: This course may not be included in the same degree as the sub-course in development economics within NEKA21 "Economics: Level 2", the sub-course in development economics within NEKG11 "Economics: Level 2", the course NEK642 "Development Economics B/C" or the course NEKB28 "Development Economics".

4. Similar courses: This course has the same content as the sub-course in development economics within NEKG11 "Economics: Level 2".

5. Limitations in renewed examination: –