NEKH41, Economics: Economic Growth, 7.5 credits

Nationalekonomi: Ekonomisk tillväxt, 7,5 högskolepoäng

First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by The Board of the Department of Economics on 2011-06-07 and was last revised on 2014-12-09. . The revised syllabus applied from 2015-08-31. , autumn semester 2015.

General Information

This is a single subject intermediate course in economics belonging to the "Macroeconomics" specialisation. The course is optional within a number of undergraduate programmes at Lund University.

Language of instruction: Swedish
Teaching is in Swedish. (In some semesters the course can be taught in English, see the appropriate application catalogue).

Main field of studies	Depth of study relative to the degree requirements
Economics	G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

1. Knowledge and understanding

Students shall understand and be able to account for:

- the importance of long-run growth for a country's material well-being, both in terms of the growth rate and the level of income,
- what factors determine a country's long-run growth rate and what factors determine a country's long-run income level,
- the effects of investment in physical capital, investment in human capital, technological development and innovations on long-run growth,
- neoclassical growth models like the Solow model,
- growth models based on endogenous and semi-endogenous growth,
- the principles of growth accounting and the conclusions that can be derived from growth accounting,

- how the infrastructure of a country affect growth and the income level,
- how natural resources and land affect growth and the income level,
- how equality between men and women affect growth and the income level,
- how other important economic, political, institutional and cultural factors affect growth and the income level,
- the costs and possible negative consequences of high economic growth and measures intending to increase thw growth rate,
- what factors cause prolonged periods of particularly high or particularly low growth rates,
- how differences in a country's initial situation affect what factors are most important to improve growth,
- the results of some important empirical investigations into economic growth and some methodological considerations that arise in connection with those investigations.

2. Skills and abilities

Students shall have an ability to independently:

- identify the long-run equilbrium of an economy and the equilibrium growth rate and income level using the models that are treated in the course,
- identify the evolution of an economy from its original position to equilbrium using the models that are retated in the course,
- analyse what countries can be expected to exhibit high and low future growt rates,
- analyse how a number of economic, political, institutional and cultural factors affect long-run growth,
- determine what factors or features of an economy that has been particularly important for the growth rate of the country,
- analyse why some countries historically have exhibited particularly high or low growth rates,
- discuss what measures can be undertaken to improve a country's growth rate,
- understand the basic mechanisms of growth models,
- discuss costs and possible negative consequences of high economic growth and measures intending to increase thw growth rate,
- analyse an economy using small extensions of the models that are treated in the course,
- present and explain their analyses and conclusions in a clear and concise manner, both orally and in writing.

3. Applying knowledge and making judgments

Students shall have developed the ability to pursue further studies in the subject and the ability to write an essay on topics related to economic growth. Students shall also develop the ability to search for and evaluate relevant information.

Course content

The course deals with theoretical and empirical insights into long-run economic growth, i.e. the causes of the growth opf real GDP per capita over a long time horizon. The aim is to improve the knowledge and understanding of why some countries exhibit higher growth rates than others and of why som counties are rich and other countries are poor. The course also analyses how and to what extent economic policy can contribute to improve economic growth. The course starts with the neoclassical growth model that focuses on savings, investment and capital accumulation. Then, the model and analysis is extended to include technology,

research and development, education, human capital and infrastructure. A selection of models applicable to different types of countries are presented. Within this context, the course also analyses the role of economic policy in improving growth. In addition, the course discusses why similar countries may exhibit different growth rates and the reasons for countried exhibiting exceptionally high growth rates during certain periods of time. During the cours,e the various theories are related to empirical studies.

Course design

1. Teaching: Tuition mainly consists of lectures.

Assessment

1. Examination: A written examination takes place at the end of the course. There will be further opportunities for examination close to this date. Home assignments with points that are carried forward to the written exam are present in the course. Points from such assignments are only carried forward to exams 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.

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.
1. Grading: The official grading scale is A, B, C, D, E and Fail.

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. To be admitted to this particular course students must also have 7.5 ECTS-credits in basic macroeconomics.

Further information

1. Transitional regulations: This course replaces NEKK18 "Economic Growth".

2. Limitations in the period of validity: –

3. Limitations: This course may not be included in the same degree as NEK652 "Macroeconomic Analysis C" or NEKK18 "Economic Growth".

4. Similar courses: –

5. Limitations in renewed examination: –

Subcourses in NEKH41, Economics: Economic Growth

Applies from V12

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