

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Political Economy

Politisk ekonomi

7.5 Higher Education

Credits

7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	EC7111
Valid from:	Autumn 2013
Date of approval:	2013-05-23
Department	Department of Economics
Main field:	Economics
Specialisation:	A1F - Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

This syllabus was approved by the Board of the Department of Economics on May 23, 2013.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Admission to this course requires that the student is either (1) enrolled in a Master's Programme in Economics at Stockholm University, or (2) has (a) eligibility for the Master's Programme in Economics at Stockholm University, and (b) prerequisites equal to the mandatory courses that have been given prior to this course according to the current curriculum for the Master's Programme in Economics.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
711A	Political Economy	7.5

Course content

This course provides an introduction to political economics, as well as detailed knowledge of a number of important issues on the research front. The course comprises two main components. In the first component we will study competing theories concerning the different motives of politicians and the result of these theories. We will then look into the effects of different types of electoral systems. Finally, we will analyse market imperfections in political economics. The second course component will be dedicated to a set of timely political economy topics such as "politicians, voters and preferences", "political careers" and "political movements".

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student is expected to be able to:

- give an account of the central aspects of political economics;
- apply the fundamental theoretical and empirical tools;
- have a good understanding of issues that are on the research agenda.

Education

Instruction is given in the form of lectures which also include time for going through prepared calculation exercises. The language of instruction is English.

Forms of examination

The course is examined on the basis of written examinations and a hand-in assignment.

Students will receive letter grades on a seven-point scale related to the learning objectives of the course: Passing grades are A, B, C, D and E, where A is the highest grade and E the lowest. Failing grades are F and Fx, where F is lower than Fx.

Assessment criteria:

- A (Excellent): The student has a very well developed overall picture of the central aspects of political economics and is able to analyse the course elements independently in a very competent fashion, both theoretically and empirically.
- B (Very Good): The student has a good overall picture of the central aspects of political economics and is capable of analysing the course elements independently, both theoretically and empirically.
- C (Good): The student has a good understanding of the central aspects of political economics and is able to analyse the course elements relatively independently, both theoretically and empirically.
- D (Satisfactory): The student is familiar with the elementary aspects of political economics. The student has satisfactory knowledge of the research issues dealt with in the course and is somewhat capable of conducting an independent analysis of its elements.
- E (Adequate): The student is familiar with the elementary aspects of political economics and the research issues dealt with in the course and is somewhat able to independently analyse the course elements.
- Fx (Inadequate): The student is only able to give an account of some aspects of political economics and has a very limited ability to conduct an independent analysis within this field.
- F (Totally Inadequate): The student is unable to give an account of the elementary aspects of political economics and is unable to analyse the different elements of the course independently.

If students fail a course unit and receive the grade Fx or F in an examination, there are no restrictions on how many times they are allowed to retake the examination in order to obtain a grade of E or higher.

Interim

If this course is discontinued, students have the right to be examined on the course once per semester for three further semesters.

Required reading

See course homepage available from www.ne.su.se.