Syllabus
for course at first level
Economic History I
Ekonomisk historia I

30.0 Higher Education Credits
30.0 ECTS credits

Course code: EH1101
Valid from: Autumn 2008
Date of approval: 2008-06-09
Department: Department of Economic History and International Relations
Subject: Economic History

Decision
This syllabus was approved by the Board of the Department of Economic History.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements
Basic eligibility.

Course structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examination code</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Higher Education Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0001</td>
<td>Perspektiv på världsekonomins utveckling</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0002</td>
<td>Valbar kurs</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0003</td>
<td>Tankar om ekonomin</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0004</td>
<td>Valbar kurs</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course content
Differences between nations in terms of culture and economic, political and social conditions have deep roots. Economic history is the study of how people have provided for themselves in different times and different parts of the world, and the course also discusses the organisation of the production and distribution of resources in different periods of history. Moreover, the course provides important starting points for understanding current issues of poverty and wealth and offers essential knowledge about the development of economic history globally and in Sweden, from several theoretical perspectives.

The knowledge acquired in this course will lead to a broad understanding of society in the past and present and may be relevant to teachers, researchers, journalists, public relations officers, economists, aid workers and employees in public administration or the private sector.

The course contains the following modules:

Module 1: Perspektiv på världsekonomins utveckling [Perspectives on the Development of the World Economy] (7.5 HECs)
This course provides a broad overview of the important trends throughout the economic history of the world. It offers perspectives on the long-term change of the economy and shows in what different ways the economy has been organised on different continents, from the beginning of humanity to our present day. Long-term social change and the power game of change are central topics. Special attention is given to the transformation of global capitalism in the 20th century and the labour of men and women in modern times.
Module 2: Optional course (7.5 HECs)

The optional courses share a common starting point as they all start out from topical questions of current interest and discuss these from an economic-historical perspective. The students can choose between four courses: 1) Globalisering, utveckling och välfärd ur ett historiskt perspektiv [Globalisation, Development and Welfare from an Historical Perspective] (7.5 HECs), 2) Pigor då och nu: kvinnors arbete 1750-2000 [Maids Then and Now: Women's Labour 1750-2000] (7.5 HECs), 3) Företagande och finansiella krascher: näringslivets historia [Entrepreneurship and Financial Crashes: the History of Commerce] (7.5 HECs), 4) Naturförhållanden och samhällsomvandling i ett långsiktigt perspektiv [Natural Conditions and Social Change in a Long-term Perspective] (7.5 HECs).

1) Globalisering, utveckling och välfärd ur ett historiskt perspektiv [Globalisation, Development and Welfare from an Historical Perspective] aims at highlighting the problematics of development from an historical and global perspective. The starting point is the continuing gaps in development between different regions and current debates about the contradictory effects of globalisation on income distribution around the world. The course discusses the historical causalities between economic growth, international trade and socioeconomic development, and how such concepts as ‘development’, ‘globalisation’ and ‘welfare’ can be understood and related to each other.

2) Pigor då och nu: kvinnors arbete 1750-2000 [Maids Then and Now: Women’s Labour 1750-2000] discusses women’s labour in the private sphere. By placing ‘domestic services’ in a gender-theoretical, historical and global perspective, the view of this as an unproblematic economic development will be discussed.

3) Företagande och finansiella krascher: näringslivets historia [Entrepreneurship and Financial Crashes: the History of Commerce]. This course discusses different empirical fields such as merchants and trade during the Middle Ages, business and organisation in the 20th century, and Swedish commerce. Topical issues such as gender distribution in Swedish businesses are discussed, as are crises and financial development in different historical periods.

4) Naturförhållanden och samhällsomvandling i ett långsiktigt perspektiv [Natural Conditions and Social Change in a Long-term Perspective] discusses the power of natural conditions to shape social development, especially in the early stages, and humanity’s impact on natural conditions. The course demonstrates how the relationship between social development and natural environment has changed in the long term and what consequences these changes have had for society as well as for the environment.

These optional courses may also be given under Module 4 and will be taught as far as resources permit.

Module 3: Tankeom ekonomin [Economic Thought] (7.5 HECs)

This course takes a broad approach to the history of economic thought and follows three separate themes. The first theme discusses the ways in which opinions about economics among academic economists and political decision-makers have changed over the recent centuries. The second theme discusses the approaches of other groups to economics. It deals with different groups from various social classes; from poor welfare recipients to family members with different levels of income. The third theme discusses different ways of looking at ‘the market’. Is the market a good, bad or neutral institution?

Module 4: Optional course (7.5 HECs)

The optional courses share a common starting point as they all start out from topical questions of current interest and discuss these from an economic-historical perspective. The students can choose between four courses: 1) Kamp, motstånd och ekonomisk omvandling [Struggle, Resistance and Economic Change] (7.5 HECs), 2) Den gamla och nya ekonomin [The Old and the New Economy] (7.5 HECs), 3) Våld och ekonomi [Violence and Economics] (7.5 HECs), 4) För pengar eller kärlek? Aktenskap och barn i västerlandet under 1000 år [For Money or Love? Marriage and Children in the West for 1000 Years] (7.5 HECs).

1) Kamp, motstånd och ekonomisk omvandling [Struggle, Resistance and Economic Change]. This course discusses different types of social conflicts – spontaneous riots and organised protests – in different geographical locations as well as in different periods of history. A central thought put forward in the course is that social conflicts can be seen both as a result of (unwanted) economic development and as a driving force behind economic development.

2) Den gamla och nya ekonomin [The Old and the New Economy]. Some topics discussed in this course include: the information revolution and the emergence of the service sector; the industrial revolution and the emergence of the industrial society in Sweden and internationally; the change of labour organisation over time (from handicraft to factory system and from assembly line to flexible production); and different views on the economy of technological change.

This is a translation of the Swedish original   Page 2/5
3) Våld och ekonomi [Violence and Economics]. The aim of this course is to deepen our understanding of the significance of violence to long-term economic change. The course illustrates how war and empires have been financed and what repercussions the violence has had on economic development. The course also discusses the course of events that have led to, or prevented, the creation of a state monopoly on violence, e.g. by looking at examples of private organised violence as a counter-force to state violence from mafia economies and from the golden age of sea piracy in the 18th century.

4) För pengar eller kärlek? Äktenskap och barn i västerlandet under 1000 år [For Money or Love? Marriage and Children in the West for 1000 Years]. This course aims to provide an understanding of the history of family formation and reproduction, and of how this history concurs with the production of material necessities. In our time, it is said that the core family is becoming less stable and that relationships are now something that you can change the same way you change socks. But how did this happen? And has it actually happened? Central issues in the course are what strategies have been used for child care and how marital conditions have developed, normatively as well as practically.

These optional courses may also be given under module 2 and will be taught as far as resources permit.

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

- Describe the main trends in the development of economic history from ancient times to the present;
- Describe basic issues and empirical research in economic history;
- Describe certain economic and social scientific theories;
- Describe a selection of thematic empirical areas in economic history;
- Communicate his/her knowledge to others, orally and in writing.

**Education**
Instruction is given in the form of lectures, seminars, discussion groups, in-class exercises and in-class examinations. In addition, there will be individual written assignments as well as spoken presentations.

**Forms of examination**
Students will receive one of the following grades: A, B, C, D, E, Fx, F.

If this course is discontinued or its content has been substantially changed, students have the right to be examined according to their original course syllabus once per semester for three further semesters.

**Required reading**
Module 1: Perspektiv på världsekonomins utveckling [Perspectives on the Development of the World Economy]


Module 2: Optional courses

Globaliserings, utveckling och välfärd ur ett historiskt perspektiv [Globalisation, Development and Welfare from a Historical Perspective]
Frank, André Gunder, “Latin America at the Margin of World System History” (available to download at http://www.rojasdatabase.org/agfrank/latin_margin.html).

Parreänas, Rhacel Salazar (2001), Servants of Globalization: Women, Migration and Domestic work, Stanford
University Press.
Plus additional articles.

Företagande och finansiella krascher: näringslivets historia [Entrepreneurship and Financial Crashes: the History of Commerce]
Göransson, Anita (2004), Kvinnor, män och karriärer: visioner och verklighet i näringslivet, Stockholm: SNS.
Johansson, Anders (1997), Inte bara valloner. Invandrare i svenskt näringsliv under 1000 år, Stockholm: Timbro (full-text version also available to download).
Plus additional articles.

Naturförhållanden och samhällsomvandling i ett långsiktigt perspektiv [Natural Conditions and Social Change in a Long-term Perspective]
Plus additional articles.

Module 3: Tankar om ekonomin [Economic Thought]

Braudel, Fernand (2001), Kapitalismens dynamik, Göteborg: Daidalos.
Plus additional articles.

Module 4: Optional courses

Kamp, motstånd och ekonomisk omvandling [Struggle, Resistance and Economic Change]
Katz, Cindi; Smith, Neil; Davis, Mike (1992), “L.A. Intifada: Interview with Mike Davis”, in Social Text, No 33, pp. 19-33 [Downloadable via SUB e-journals].
Plus additional articles.

Den gamla och nya ekonomin – informationsrevolutionen i jämförelse med tidigare teknologiska revolutioner [The Old and the New Economy – The Information Revolution in Comparison with Earlier Technological Revolutions]

This is a translation of the Swedish original
Plus additional articles.

För pengar eller kärlek? Äktenskap och barn i västerlandet under 1000 år [For Money or Love? Marriage and Children in the West for 1000 Years]

Våld och ekonomi [Violence and Economics]
Lappalainen, Tomas, Maffia Bokförlaget T Fischer & Co, 1999
Rogers, Clifford J. (1993), ”The Military Revolutions of the Hundred Years’ War”, Journal of Military History 57:2 [Downloadable via SUB e-journals].
Söderberg, Johan, “Om historiskt våld” (available to download at www.ekohist.su.se).