

Department of Economics

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Development Economics
Utvecklingsekonomi

7.5 Higher Education Credits 7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:EC7310Valid from:Autumn 2013Date of approval:2013-05-23

Department Department of Economics

Subject 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 codeNameHigher Education Credits731ADevelopment Economics7.5

Course content

The course will focus on two main areas: economic growth and microeconomic analysis of four active research fields within development economics: corruption, development aid, human capital, and credit and insurance.

Learning outcomes

After completing the course, the student is expected to have acquired:

Knowledge and understanding:

• After completing the course, the student should be able to describe, and give a broad outline of, economic development in developing countries in the last 30-year period.

Proficiency and ability:

• The student should be able to describe and analyse the neoclassical growth model, as well as a number of theoretical models that are used to analyse corruption, development aid, human capital as well as credit and insurance. The student should also have acquired knowledge of the most important empirical results within the above mentioned areas.

Ability to make assessments and approach problems:

• The student should be able to explain the limitations of the model and which are the underlying critical assumptions. The student should be able to explain the basic empirical/econometric assumptions of the empirical studies that have been presented in the course. The student should be able to analyse real economic problems using the theoretical models that have been presented in the course.

Education

Instruction is in the form of lectures. English is the language of instruction.

Forms of examination

The course is examined in the following way: written exam. Grades will be set according to a 7-tier goal related scale. Passing grades include grades A, B, C, D and E, where A is the highest and E is the lowest. Failing grades are F and FX where F is lower than FX. Grading criteria:

- A (Excellent): The student shall be able to explain basic concepts, theories and empirical results in development economics. The student shall, in a completely correct and well-structured way, be able to carry out an analysis of an economic issue that has not been dealt with in the course material, and independently be able to motivate which model is relevant for the problem in question. The student shall also have a command of the theoretical derivation of the models used. The student shall also be able to carry out a nuanced discussion about what conclusions can be drawn from the theoretical analysis and what the limitations of the theoretical analysis are. The student shall have very good knowledge of what empirical evidence there is that supports or rejects the predictions of the model.
- B (Very good): The student shall be able to explain basic concepts, theories and empirical results in development economics. The student shall, in a correct and well-structured way, be able to make an analysis of a problem similar to those that have been dealt with in the course material based on a given model. The student shall have an excellent understanding of the limitations of the model and be able to carry out a nuanced discussion of what conclusions can be drawn from the theoretical analysis. The student shall have good knowledge of what empirical evidence there is that supports or rejects the predictions of the model.
- C (Good): The student shall be able to explain basic concepts, theories and empirical results in development economics. The student shall, in a correct and well-structured way, be able to carry out an analysis of a problem that has been directly dealt with in the course material, based on a given model. The student shall also understand the limitations of the model and have knowledge of what empirical evidence there is that supports or rejects the predictions of the model.
- D (Satisfactory): The student can explain basic concepts, theories and empirical results in development economics. The student can also correctly carry out an analysis of a problem that has been directly dealt with in the course material based on a given model and has knowledge of what empirical evidence there is that supports or rejects the predictions of the model.
- E (Sufficient): The student can explain basic concepts, the essential components as well as important empirical results in development economics. The student can also, in a largely correct way, carry out an analysis of a problem that has been directly dealt with in the course material based on a given model and has certain knowledge of what empirical evidence there is that supports or rejects the predictions of the model
- FX (Insufficient): The student cannot carry out an analysis of a problem that has been directly dealt with in the course material based on a given model in a largely correct way and lacks knowledge of what empirical evidence there is that supports or rejects the predictions of the model and/or lacks knowledge of basic concepts in development economics
- F (Completely insufficient): The student cannot carry out an analysis of an issue that has been directly dealt with in the course material based on a given model in a largely correct way, but has certain knowledge of what empirical knowledge there is that supports or rejects the predictions of the model as well as a certain knowledge of basic concepts in development economics.

For a student who has received the grade FX or F on an exam, there are no restrictions as to how many times the exam can be retaken in order to obtain a grade no lower than E.

Interim

In the event that the course is no longer offered in the course programme, the student will have three opportunities to re-take the exam in the three semesters after the course was last given.

Required reading

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