



LUND
UNIVERSITY

School of Economics and Management

EEH016F, Institutions, Economic Growth, and Equity 7.5 credits

Institutioner, ekonomisk tillväxt och rättvisa, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Third Cycle / Doktorandnivå

Details of approval

Approved by the Board of the Department of Economic History, Lund University School of Economics and Management 2021-03-09.

General Information

This is an optional course at the PhD programme.

The language of instruction is English.

Learning outcomes

On a general level the student will acquire advanced knowledge about theories of the development of institutions in history and of the interrelationship between institutions and modern economic growth as well as of the empirical relevance of institutional theory to both developed and developing countries. More specifically, to pass the assessments students will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- understand the analyse the historical development of institutions in the modern world;

Competence and skills

- critically analyse theories of institutions, and their role in long-run economic growth;
- make use of institutional theory and concepts in research on economic growth and distribution;

Judgement and approach

- assess the development and role of specific institutional arrangements in developed as well as developing countries;
- analyse how (in)equality between individuals in terms of resources and opportunities may have effects on the pace and nature of economic growth and on institutional development.

Course content

The content of the course is delimited of both teaching and literature. Historical evidence suggests that the quality and efficiency of a country's institutions, such as law enforcement, property rights, and civil rights, are significant elements of its economic and development performance. Furthermore, the extent of inequality in a society is highly related to the quality of institutions and thereby to the possibilities for economic growth. The latter is particularly relevant for the formation of public institutions for provision of social security, education and health care. This course studies such connections and interactions between institutions, modern economic growth, and equality. Problems in the world of today are taken as points of departure for a comparative historical analysis of countries and regions in different parts of the world. Four themes are focused. The first deals with differences between countries with regard to institutional arrangements for property rights and markets and analyses possible outcomes thereof. The second theme concerns institutional evolution; how and why institutions conducive to economic and social development may, or may not, develop. The third theme focuses on the relationship between the distribution of resources and institutional development, and the importance thereof for economic growth. The fourth theme investigates attempts towards institutional reform in the modern world, with a focus on developing and emerging economies.

Course design

The course is designed as a series of lectures, exercises and work with projects reports. Grading is based on individual performance, via written exams, paper, presentations and other mandatory activities. Attendance at no less than three of four teaching occasions is required. Examination may draw on teaching as well as the course literature.

Assessment

Grading is based on individual performance, via written exams, papers, presentations, and other mandatory activities. Examination may draw on information presented in class as well as the course literature.

The University views plagiarism very seriously and will take disciplinary actions against students for any kind of attempted malpractice in examinations and assessments. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other unfair practice in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail or Pass.

Entry requirements

PhD students applying for this course should have at least 60 credit points in either economic history, business administration, economic and social geography, economics, history, sociology or the equivalent knowledge.

Further information

This course cannot be included in the same degree as EKHP05, EKHM42 and EKHM84.