



LUND
UNIVERSITY

School of Economics and Management

EEH005F, Economic Growth over Time and Space, 7.5 credits

Ekonomisk tillväxt över tid och rum, 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 approaches of various disciplines to economic growth. More specifically, to pass the assessments students will:

Knowledge and understanding

- have advanced knowledge about basic theoretical tools to analyse the initiation and diffusion of long term economic transformation and growth processes in time and space;

Competence and skills

- be trained to analyse the role of physical capital, human capital, research and development, institutions and entrepreneurship for innovations and economic growth;
- be able to transform theoretical models into testable empirical models and conduct the appropriate empirical investigation;
- be able to analyse and interpret the findings of advanced theoretical and empirical applications;
- be trained to communicate their own and others results, both in writing and orally;
- be trained to handle databases;

- be trained to assess the relevance and implications of their findings for research as well as policy purposes;

Judgement and approach

- be able to independently read, interpret and assess current research in growth and innovation as well as advanced professional reports and analyses.

Course content

Innovation and technical change is central to long term economic growth but it is treated very differently in economic theories. In a comparative manner this course presents technical change within major theoretical approaches: neoclassical growth models, endogenous growth models and evolutionary structural models. Particular attention is given to an economic historical model combined with a spatial theoretical framework of regional trajectories of growth. The model is based upon complementarities around innovations forming development blocks that are driving processes of structural change. Thus, the interplay between innovations, economic transformation and economic growth is studied with an emphasis on major carrier branches both historically and in contemporary times. Innovations are analysed in relation to variations over time in, e.g., relative prices, entrepreneurial activity, investments, labour demand and employment. It is shown how this, at an aggregate level, shows up in phases of spatial convergence and divergence, respectively.

Furthermore, factors governing the diffusion of innovations - including the interplay between economic and institutional change - are studied. In this context the economics of spatial clustering and localised externalities is central. A related aspect is how clusters and regions contribute to the characteristics of national technological shifts and economic growth.

Teaching and assessment

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.

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.

Grading scale

Marking scale: Fail or Pass

Prerequisites

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 or the equivalent knowledge.

Further information

This course cannot be included in the same degree as EKHM63.