



School of Economics and Management

## **EHEH005, Principle debates in African Economic History, 7.5 credits**

*Principiella debatter i afrikansk ekonomisk historia, 7,5 högskolepoäng*  
**Third Cycle / Doktorandnivå**

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### **Details of approval**

Approved by the Board of the Department of Economic History, Lund University School of Economics and Management 2015-11-03.

### **General Information**

This is an optional course at the PhD programme.

The language of instruction is English.

### **Learning outcomes**

Upon completion of the course, students must demonstrate the ability to:

- discuss and critically evaluate key concepts and theories in the field of African economic history
- use theory to identify and analyse historical processes of change on the African continent
- account for and independently use different methods and techniques to handle available empirical materials and data in African economic history
- use African economic history to reflect on current development challenges on the African continent • relate the sub-field of African economic history to the broader research within economic-historical
- conduct independent research work

### **Course content**

This course presents and discusses some of the fundamental debates in African economic history. Emphasis is placed on research in recent years. The course consists of four themes: (i) a broader overview of the research field, (ii) long-term economic and agrarian change, (iii) state formation and capacity, (iv) inequality, welfare and poverty. Within each theme we discuss and compare central perspectives and debates that students are expected to be able to contrast and critically examine. The first part of the course consists

of literature seminars where selected mandatory reading is discussed. During the second half of the course, each student is free to identify an individual in-depth study area that fits into the overall framework of the course.

### **Assessment**

The course is offered as a research-based course. The examination consists of two parts. Part 1 consists of a small number of seminars where the mandatory literature is discussed. The aim is to build a general knowledge base in the field of African economic history and to make students involved in some of the major debates in the field. Active participation is required. Continuous oral examination is applied. Part 2 consists of an individual independent work. Here the students choose which subject they want to immerse themselves in and are responsible for finding suitable literature. The independent studies are presented and examined both orally and in writing. The students should submit a research-based paper where they show the ability to conduct independent research work, select and apply the appropriate theory and critically discuss data.

### **Grading**

According to Lund University's regulations, the grades pass or fail.

### **Entry requirements**

Students admitted to doctoral education in economic history are eligible to take the course.