

City University of Hong Kong

Information on a Course
offered by the Department of Economics and Finance
with effect from Semester A in 2012 / 2013

Part I

Course Title: Economic Growth and Development

Course Code: EF5402

Course Duration: 1 semester (39 hours)

Credit Units: 3

Level: P5

Medium of Instruction: English

Prerequisites: Nil

Precursors: EF5472 / EF8072 Advanced Macroeconomics

Equivalent Courses: Nil

Exclusive Courses: Nil

Part II

Course Aims

This course aims at providing an in-depth analysis of various theoretical and empirical issues related to economic growth and development. This course encourages students to propose new growth policies in different contexts in different countries.

In particular, this course will help students acquire techniques to develop neoclassical growth models and endogenous growth models. The course focuses on the roles of various factors such as human capital, technology, institutions, financial markets, and income inequality.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)
1.	demonstrate the understanding of the basic facts on growth and development experiences around the world	20%
2.	explain the standard paradigms, such as neoclassical growth models and endogenous growth models, for understanding economic growth	20%
3.	examine the roles of various factors such as human capital, technology, institutions, financial markets, and income inequality, etc. in growth and development	40%
4.	analyze the implications for policies and strategies aimed at improving economic conditions for less-developed countries	20%

Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

CILO No.	TLAs	Hours/week (if applicable)
CILO 1	Lectures, in-class discussions: The lectures introduce the stylized facts regarding economic growth and development that many countries have experienced and encourage students to consider the stylized facts deeply.	3 hours lecture per week
CILO 2	Lectures, in-class discussions, assignments: The lectures provide ideas of neo-classical growth models and endogenous growth model to understand and explain the stylized facts that many countries have experienced. In addition, students will understand the limitations of those growth models. To confirm students' understanding these growth models, assignments will be given.	3 hours lecture per week
CILO 3	Lectures, in-class discussions, assignments: In lectures, sophisticated growth models are introduced in which various factors that affect growth and development are discussed. In particular, the lectures focus on human capital, institutions, financial market imperfections, and income inequality. To confirm students' understanding these growth models, assignments will be given.	3 hours lecture per week
CILO 4	Lectures, in-class discussions, assignments: Growth policies in different contexts in different countries are discussed in lectures. In particular, the lectures focus on growth-enhancing economic policies for less-developed countries. To confirm students' understanding growth-enhancing economic policies, assignments will be given.	3 hours lecture per week

Assessment Tasks/Activities

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

CILO No.	Type of Assessment Tasks/Activities	Weighting (if applicable)	Remarks
CILO 1 - 4	Exam (one 3-hr examination)	70 %	
CILO 1 - 4	Homework assignments, presentation, discussions	30 %	

Grading of Student Achievement:

Refer to Grading of Courses in the Academic Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Degrees.

Letter Grade	Grade Points	Grade Definitions	Remarks
A+	4.3	Excellent	Strong evidence of firm grasp of the subject knowledge and achieving the stated CILOs
A	4.0		
A-	3.7		
B+	3.3	Good	Sufficient evidence of achieving the stated CILOs
B	3.0		
B-	2.7		
C+	2.3	Adequate	Some evidence of achieving the stated CILOs
C	2.0		
C-	1.7		
D	1.0	Marginal	Marginal familiarity with the subject knowledge
F	0.0	Failure	Little evidence of familiarity with the subject knowledge

Part III

Keyword Syllabus

Economics growth and development; Neo-classical growth model; Endogenous growth models; Representative agent framework; Overlapping generations framework; Externalities and increasing returns; Physical capital; Human capital; Public capital; Learning by doing; Technology/Ideas and R&D; Financial development; Inequality; Institutions; Political economy; Economic convergence

Recommended Reading

Text(s)

Aghion, Philippe and Peter Howitt, Endogenous Growth Theory, MIT Press, current edition.

Aghion, Philippe and Peter Howitt, The Economics of Growth, MIT Press, current edition.

Barro, Robert J. and Xavier Sala-i-Martin, Economic Growth, MIT Press, current edition.

Easterly, W., The Elusive Quest for Growth: Economists' Adventures and Misadventures in the Tropics, MIT Press, current edition.
(Non-technical reading)

Grossman, Gene M. and Elhanan Helpman, Innovation and Growth in the Global Economy, MIT Press, current edition.

Jones, Charles I., Introduction to Economic Growth, W.W. Norton and Co., current edition.

Romer, David, Advanced Macroeconomics, McGraw-Hill, current edition.

Weil, David N., Economic Growth, Addison-Wesley, current edition.

Online Resources