EF5473: PROFESSIONAL SEMINARS IN APPLIED ECONOMICS

Effective Term
Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title
Professional Seminars in Applied Economics

Subject Code
EF - Economics and Finance

Course Number
5473

Academic Unit
Economics and Finance (EF)

College/School
College of Business (CB)

Course Duration
Two Semesters

Credit Units
0-3

Level
P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction
English

Medium of Assessment
English

Prerequisites
Nil

Precursors
Nil

Equivalent Courses
Nil

Exclusive Courses
Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course aims at increasing students' exposure to and awareness of a wide variety of real world economic and business issues.
Through seminars delivered by economics experts and business professionals on a variety of economic and business issues, students will strengthen their discovery skills for innovative analyses of these issues.
To evaluate students' accomplishments of discovery in putting forward their own analyses, and recommendations where applicable, students are required to participate in class, complete group project papers, and write two individual reports for the course.
The group project papers list the main points on what students have learned from the seminars in this course. Students will engage in group discussion, and complete several group project papers as designated by the course leader.
The individual reports reflect students' own analyses of the issues that the speakers lecture on and would provide evidence of their accomplishments of discovery. Students may expand on what the speakers lecture on for their reports. As some seminars are related to current issues with no definite resolutions of the problems, students may provide their own viewpoints in their reports that are opposite to what the speakers would present as long as they justify these views using their own analyses and recommendations. Some of these current issues may include predicting whether central banks will loosen or tighten monetary policy, whether the Hong Kong dollar should be linked to the US dollar, etc.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

	CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Analyze and critically evaluate a wide range of different fields and topical issues in economics and business.		x	x	x
2	Discuss a few topics/issues in economics and business with in-depth knowledge and analyze these topics in greater depth from various perspectives with creative abilities.		x	x	x

A1: Attitude
Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability
Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments
Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

	LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Professional seminars and public lectures	Students will participate in professional seminars and public lectures to gain knowledge about current issues.	1, 2	

2	Projects	Students will participate in groups to consolidate their learning as they will produce two reports (one group project and one individual project) by researching presented topics from related printed and online sources.	1, 2	

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("-" for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Attendance, class participation, group project papers, individual reports	1, 2	100	For Assignments and Group Project, you can use Generative Artificial Intelligence Tools to help you understand the concepts/ questions/ problems, or analyze data. But the final version must be your own work, e.g., you cannot copy and paste the AI answers as your own answers. You are not allowed to use Generative Artificial Intelligence Tools in mid-term exam(s)/quiz(zes).	Yes

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Assessment Rubrics (AR)

Assessment Task

Attendance (Applicable to students admitted in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Show evidence of attending the seminars which focus on the latest developments in a variety of economics and business issues.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

Good
(B+, B, B-) Significant

Fair
(C+, C, C-) Basic

Marginal
(D) Marginal familiarity with the subject knowledge. Students have demonstrated marginal ability to discover and innovate, and showed marginal evidence of accomplishments of discovery.

Failure
(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task
Individual Reports (Applicable to students admitted in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion
Provide in-depth analyses of some of the issues presented in this seminar series.

Excellent
(A+, A, A-) High

Good
(B+, B, B-) Significant

Fair
(C+, C, C-) Basic

Marginal
(D) Marginal familiarity with the subject knowledge. Students have demonstrated marginal ability to discover and innovate, and showed marginal evidence of accomplishments of discovery.

Failure
(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task
Class Participation (Applicable to students admitted in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion
Show evidence of engaging with the seminar speakers and students on the latest developments in a variety of economics and business issues.

Excellent
(A+, A, A-) High

Good
(B+, B, B-) Significant

Fair
(C+, C, C-) Basic

Marginal

(D) Marginal familiarity with the subject knowledge. Students have demonstrated marginal ability to discover and innovate, and showed marginal evidence of accomplishments of discovery.

Failure

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

Group Project Papers (Applicable to students admitted in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Demonstrate understanding of the content of the seminars which focus on the latest developments in a variety of economics and business issues based on group work.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

Good

(B+, B, B-) Significant

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Basic

Marginal

(D) Marginal familiarity with the subject knowledge. Students have demonstrated marginal ability to discover and innovate, and showed marginal evidence of accomplishments of discovery.

Failure

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Exposure, Awareness, Economic and business issues and problems, Economic concepts, principles, and analysis, Professional seminars, Workshops, Short courses, Public lectures, and Term papers.

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

	Title
1	To be provided by various speakers.

Additional Readings

	Title
1	To be provided by various speakers.