



School of Economics and Management

EEH024F, Agricultural transformation in the Development Process, 7.5 credits

Jordbruksomvandlingens roll i utvecklingsprocessen, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Third Cycle / Doktorandnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Economic History on 2020-12-01 to be valid from 2020-12-01, spring semester 2021.

General Information

This is an optional course in the PhD programme.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies: Economic History

Learning outcomes

On a general level the student will acquire advanced knowledge about theories of the role of agriculture and agricultural transformation in the process of economic development. In particular, s/he will be taught analytical approaches to the study of agricultural development outside the industrialized West. The student will also acquire substantial knowledge about the quality, scope and availability of data on agricultural change in developing countries. More specifically, to pass the assessments students will be expected to:

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge of theories and empirical patterns of the role of agriculture in the development process

Competence and skills

- apply theories and analytical concepts from the literature of the role of agricultural development and critically examine their limitations

Judgement and approach

- make critical use of empirical evidence in addressing different dimensions of agricultural transformation
- discuss and defend theoretically and empirically sound analyses of agricultural change and its relation to the development process in the global South
- analyse and evaluate different roles of agricultural change developing countries after WW II.

Course content

The significant role of agriculture in the development process for both long-term economic growth and poverty reduction is a classic theme in both Economic History and Development Economics. The relative decline of agriculture and simultaneous rise of the industrial and service sectors rests on the productivity of, and resource transfer from, the former. This tutorial provides the tools to go into depth on the dynamics and variation of these processes. In this course we will review the theoretical debates on the role of agriculture both in terms of its mechanisms of change and its interaction with other sectors. Empirically, the course will have a broad geographical scope including cases from Asia, Latin America and Africa. This will allow a study and further understanding not only of the successful and completed cases of transformation but also those that are still in the midst of the process.

Course design

The course consists of a number of mandatory group meetings where the student is expected to actively discuss and in writing reports of significant theoretical and empirical literature in the discussion of the role of the state in the development process. The course ends with a paper assignment focusing on a debate, theoretical problem or empirical case(s) that also is presented for the group.

Assessment

Grading is based on individual performance both orally and in writing. Grading is continuous throughout the course. The greatest weight is given to the final paper.

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 EKHT41.