Economic Geography, Advanced Level, 30 HE credits

Ekonomisk Geografi, C-nivå , 20 poäng

Established date 2002-06-04  Subject Economic Geography
Last revised 2004-09-08  Level Advanced Level I
Established by IN EI  Education field SA 100%
Applicable from V05  Grades F/P/PD

Course objectives

The main aim of this course in economic geography is to provide comprehensive knowledge of theoretical approaches and methodologies, in order to provide a good ability to collect, analyse and present research material of a high academic standard. In so doing, the course will prepare the candidate for further post-graduate studies and research work in the subject. Furthermore, the collaborative set-up of the course will enhance an internationalisation process and deepen the understanding and knowledge of other cultures and regions outside the conventional European context.

Course contents

The course consists of three different parts with the following contents. The first two parts have a theoretical/empirical orientation. The final part of the course consists of a research task including collection, analyses and presentation of the material in form of a thesis.

Part 1. Research Philosophy and Methods (5 credits)
This part discusses theoretical discourses within the field of social science. Connected to the conceptual orientation is a component focusing on different qualitative and quantitative research methodologies. The goal is to provide the students with sufficient knowledge in order to accomplish a research task, which apart from forming a conceptual discussion, include a knowledge and capacity to collect, analyse and present research material.

Part 2. Geography of Development. (5 credits)
Through the collaboration between the institutions involved, this part will assess the nature and causes of global inequality, as well as critically examine contemporary approaches to economic development. The interaction between actors at local, national and global level of development will be assessed. The course will further highlight the present-day disparities between the industrialised economies and the Third World, as well as within the Third World. Furthermore, The various development perspectives will be discussed and contextualised with empirical examples from the ‘First’- as well as ‘Third’ world.

Part 3. Research Thesis. (10 credits)
The final part, which make up the major part of the course, has a methodological/analytical orientation where the students will carry out a research task and present the material in form of a thesis. Under the supervision of the senior staff from the institutions involved, the students shall on an individual basis go through a research process, including all major steps of problem identification, research planning, field studies with collection of data, analyses and presentation. The research thesis is presented/ defended in a public seminar, which provide the final exam of the course.
Admission requirements
EGA220 Economic Geography Basic Level and EGB100 Economic Geography Intermediate Level, or equivalent knowledge.

Assessment
The first parts of the course are examined in form of written examinations. The final part is examined through the production of a research thesis, which is defended in a public seminar. Furthermore, participation in seminars, field studies and excursions in the course is compulsory.

General rules for examination in University West that will be applied can be found in Assessment procedures at University West (www.hv.se).

Other information
This course is conducted through a co-operation between the Department for Economics and Informatics at HTU, and the Geography Department at Rhodes University. The course is given in English and sufficient knowledge of English is therefore required.

The two first parts of the course are Internet based and jointly produced by the institutions. Hence, basic computer knowledge and access to the Internet and e-mail address is required. The final part, consisting of research work, is simultaneously given on Campus at HTU and Rhodes University.

All parts of the course are part of the collaboration and included in the course calendar at the respective institution. A formal agreement between HTU/Rhodes University will enable students registered at HTU to take the full course, or parts of it, at Rhodes University with full recognition at the home institution.

This is an independent course in economic geography. The course is carried out in collaboration with the Geography Department at Rhodes University in Grahamstown, South Africa.

Transitional rules
Transitional rules that will be applied can be found in Assessment procedures at University West (www.hv.se).
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Other information

Module 1 and 2: Reference material.
Research Thesis: References and recommended readings will be given on an individual basis during the course.