

- Faculté des sciences économiques
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Economic growth (5ER1018)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Bachelor en sciences économiques, orientation économie	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	3
Bachelor en sciences économiques, orientation économie politique	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	3
Bachelor en sciences économiques, orientation management	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	3
Bachelor en systèmes naturels	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	3
Pilier principal B A - économie	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	3

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Automne

Equipe enseignante

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Contenu

The course provides an overview of the main determinants of long-term economic growth. By adopting a long-run perspective, it complements introductory and intermediate-level macroeconomics courses which mainly study the business cycle and thereby focus on short-run fluctuations of economic activity. To this effect, the course reviews a number of theoretical models with a view to explain the growth patterns observed in industrialized and emerging economies as well as in less-developed countries. In particular, it highlights the influence of economic policy tools in this process.

After an introductory chapter dealing with basic definitions and stylized facts of economic growth, three generations of growth theories are sequentially studied, namely Harrod-Domar, Solow-Swan (neo-classical) and endogenous growth models. Notwithstanding the general focus on "positive" growth theories, the normative approach is not neglected and conditions for "optimal" economic growth are derived as well. The course also includes a case study, namely the so-called "growth deficit" in Switzerland, allowing students to apply acquired theoretical knowledge to a real-life problem. Finally, the course investigates the impact of various government interventions on economic growth before summarizing the main findings in the concluding chapter.

Forme de l'évaluation

Grading is based on a 2-hour written exam during the exam session at the end of the semester.

Retake: 2-hour written exam during the exam session.

Exams cover the entire range of subjects taught, including exercises and proposed readings.

No documents or connected objects are allowed during the exams. Any violation of these rules will be considered as fraud, leading to the withdrawal of unauthorized items and possibly exam failure.

Documentation

The following textbook is recommended for this course:

Jones, Charles and Dietrich Vollrath, Introduction to Economic Growth, 3rd edition, New York, Norton, 2013.

Other course materials (lecture notes, journal articles, book extracts, exercises, illustrations) will be provided throughout the semester on the e-platform Moodle. Also, some handouts might be distributed during lectures.

Pré-requis

Intermediate-level macroeconomics and microeconomics.

Forme de l'enseignement

2-hour lecture. The course makes extensive use of interactive teaching, relying on prior readings and active class participation by students.

Objectifs d'apprentissage

Au terme de la formation l'étudiant-e doit être capable de :

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- Discuss the main mechanisms governing long-term economic growth and identify the key determinants of long-term economic growth
- Distinguish the appropriate methodologies to explore the economic growth process
- Use both positive and normative approaches to study economic growth
- Depict the multi-faceted impact of government activity on economic growth
- Apply appropriate mathematical and econometric techniques to study economic growth at theoretical and empirical levels
- Criticise scientific texts and statistical data on economic growth
- Carry out real-world case studies of economic growth and present sound policy recommendations to enhance the growth potential of an economy
- Communicate effectively on growth-related topics using professional yet accessible wordings and terminology

Compétences transférables

- Apply knowledge to new situations
- Discuss complex issues and interactions
- Carry out a critical analysis
- Carry out critical and evidence-based analyses