

- Faculté des sciences économiques
- www.unine.ch/seco

Economic growth (5ER1018)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Bachelor en sciences économiques, orientation durabilité	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	3
Bachelor en sciences économiques, orientation économie	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	3
Bachelor en sciences économiques, orientation management	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	3
Bachelor of Science en économie et sport	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	3
Pilier 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

Dr Rebecca Stuart, Institute of Economic Research, A.-L. Breguet 2, CH-2000 Neuchâtel, rebecca.stuart@unine.ch ;
Benjamin Ignoto, teaching assistant and PhD candidate, Institute of Economic Research, A.-L. Breguet 2, CH-2000 Neuchâtel, benjamin.ignoto@unine.ch

Contenu

This course provides a broad overview of the economic growth process and its main determinants. By adopting a long-run perspective, it complements introductory and intermediate-level macroeconomics courses which are mainly devoted to the study the business cycle and thereby focus on short-run fluctuations of economic activity. After a broad introduction devoted to the basic concepts, course first reviews a number of theoretical models with a view to explaining the growth patterns observed in industrialized and emerging economies today. Here, the influence of economic policy tools on the growth mechanism, the underlying (neo-classical) production function and growth theories - culminating in endogenous growth models - are examined. In this context, the course delves into innovation as the key engine of economic growth and its main determinants. The course then considers the historical pattern of economic growth. The question of why modern economic growth occurred is addressed, including various theories covering geography, politics, culture, demography and colonialism. We study why the Industrial Revolution occurred when and where it did, and why other countries have caught up at different rates.

Forme de l'évaluation

Under "normal" (i.e. face-to-face) conditions, grading is based on a 2-hour written exam during the exam session at the end of the semester. Only a non-programmable calculator is authorized. 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.

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

Remote modality (subject to further approval by university authorities): 1-hour (60 minutes), written, on-line and open-book exam during the exam session at the end of the semester.

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

Documentation

This course will cover material from two texts:

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

Koyama and Rubin, How the World Became Rich: The Historical Origins of Economic Growth, 1st edition, Cambridge, Polity Press, 2022.

Other course materials (lecture notes, journal articles, book extracts, exercises, illustrations) will be provided throughout the semester on the e-platform Moodle.

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 :

- Distinguish the appropriate methodologies to explore the economic growth process
- Use both positive and normative approaches to study economic growth

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- Depict the multi-faceted impact of government activity on economic growth
- Communicate effectively on growth-related topics using professional yet accessible wordings and terminology
- Criticise scientific texts and statistical data on economic growth
- Discuss the main mechanisms governing long-term economic growth and identify the key determinants of long-term economic growth
- Apply appropriate mathematical and econometric techniques to study economic growth at theoretical and empirical levels
- Carry out the historical origins of modern, continuous economic growth

Compétences transférables

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