Syllabus

ECONOMIC HISTORY - 54121

Last update 19-01-2014

HU Credits: 3

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Program in Philosophy, Economics and Political Science

Academic year: 3

Semester: Yearly

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Nathan Sussman

Coordinator Email: msussman@mscc.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: by appointment

Teaching Staff:
  Prof Nathan Sussman
  Tzvi Shir
Course/Module description:
Understanding the long term growth process in Europe
Be able to apply basic economic analysis to historical institutions and developments.

Course/Module aims:
Understanding the long term growth process in Europe
Be able to apply basic economic analysis to historical institutions and developments.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
Ability to employ economic theory to analyze historical developments in particular and economic phenomena in general.
Ability to read academic papers

Attendance requirements(%):
0

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture

Course/Module Content:
1. Introduction: selection of conceptual and methodological issues in modern economic history
   A. Introduction
   B. Reality properties (propositions counterfactuals) as an assessment tool (quantitative) explanation, and judgment in the study of economic history
   C. Randomness, causation, and historical path dependence
   D. Institutions in economics and economic history

2. Institutions and economic policy in the Middle Ages and early modern times
   A. Beginnings: the feudal system¡¯s institutions and heritage
   B. The power of money: the development of medieval monetary system
   C. Development of medieval trade
   D. Development of the absolutist state and its fall

3. Wealth (and poverty) of nations: Origins and characteristics
   A. Institutional aspects of modern growth
   B. Sources of wealth and poverty of the Jews, Christians, Muslims and Africans
   C. Economic growth, biology and genetics
Required Reading:
Beek Van der, K., (2010, "Political fragmentation and investment decisions: the milling industry in feudal France (1150-1250)". Economic History Review 63(3): pp. 664-687

**Additional Reading Material:**


Stzgbauer, C. and Komlos, J. (2004), "Averting the Nazi seizure of Power: A


Eggertsson, T., (1990), Economic Behavior and Institutions, pp. 13-79.


McCloskey, D. N. (2008) "You know, Ernest, the rich are different from you and me": a comment on Clark's A Farewell to Alms" European Review of Economic History, Volume 12, Issue 02, August 2008, pp 138-148.


Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 0 %
Project work 60 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 40 %
Other 0 %

Additional information:
None