



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

The Origins of Wealth and Inequality across Nations - 57501

Last update 07-02-2024

HU Credits: 1

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Economics

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Prof Oded Galor

Coordinator Email: Oded_Galor@brown.edu

Coordinator Office Hours:

Teaching Staff:

Prof Oded Galor

Course/Module description:

This course explores the origins of wealth and inequality across the globe. It examines: (i) the determinants of the growth process since the emergence of Homo sapiens, (ii) the roots of the dramatic transformation in living standards in the past two centuries, and (iii) the role of deeply rooted geographical, institutional, and cultural characteristics as well as human diversity in the uneven development across the countries and regions. The analysis proposes a resolution for some of the most fundamental mysteries of the journey of humanity: What trapped humankind in poverty for most of human existence? What sparked the massive metamorphosis in living standards over the past two centuries? And what led to the emergence of immense inequality across nations?

Course/Module aims:

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

design strategies that could expedite the growth process and mitigate inequality across nations.

Attendance requirements(%):

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:

Course/Module Content:

- *Mysteries of the Journey of Humanity*
- *The Malthusian Hypothesis*
- *Unified Growth Theory*
- *The Fingerprints of Institutions*
- *The Cultural Factor*

-
- *The Shadow of Geography*
 - *Population Diversity*

Required Reading:
No required readings

Additional Reading Material:

Grading Scheme:
Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 100 %

Additional information: