



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2019

5,256: Development Economics (BVWL)

ECTS credits: 6

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - Written examination (40%, 60 mins.)

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (20%)

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (40%)

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[5,256,1.00 Development Economics \(BVWL\)](#) -- Englisch -- [Gottlieb Charles](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

A knowledge of calculus and linear algebra is assumed. Having attended Macro III and a command of R is advantageous.

Course content

Why are some countries rich and others poor? This course provides answers to this question by looking at economic development from a macroeconomic perspective. The introductory lecture introduces the concept of GDP per worker and its measurement across countries. The rest of the course is divided into two parts. In the first part we study the role of production factors in a world where there is a single output. We investigate to what extent physical and human capital account for productivity differences across nations. We discuss the success of such an approach when factors are taken as exogenous as well as when they are allowed to vary endogenously. In other words, how important are efficiency/technology differences *per se* across countries, and how do they feed back into capital accumulation via a number of channels. We also explore the idea of factor-specific technology. The second part then consists of a decomposition of the economy into different sectors. We are interested in understanding how specific sectors can disproportionately impact aggregate productivity. For this we first study the process of structural transformation across time and space before exploring two specific parts of the economy in turn: the agricultural and investment sectors.

Course structure

A typical 3h session is structured as follows: a 1,5 hour of lecture and 1,5 hour devoted to a mix of exercise solving, live coding and student presentations.

Course literature

Lectures notes will be provided. I will also provide you with 4 problem sets and sample solutions. The problem set will help you assess how well you have understood the material and prepare for the exam.

Additional course information

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Examination information

Examination sub part/s



1. Examination sub part (1/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Written examination (40%, 60 mins.)

Remark

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Examination-aid rule

Extended Closed Book

The use of aids is limited; any additional aids permitted are exhaustively listed under "Supplementary aids". Basically, the following is applicable:

- At such examinations, all the pocket calculators of the Texas Instruments TI-30 series and mono- or bilingual dictionaries (no subject-specific dictionaries) without hand-written notes are admissible. Any other pocket calculator models and any electronic dictionaries are inadmissible.
- In addition, any type of communication, as well as any electronic devices that can be programmed and are capable of communication such as notebooks, tablets, PDAs, mobile telephones and others, are inadmissible.
- Students are themselves responsible for the procurement of examination aids.

Supplementary aids

None

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

2. Examination sub part (2/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (20%)

Remark

present a paper discussion in groups of 2

Examination-aid rule

Practical examination

No examination-aid rule is necessary for such examination types. The rules and regulations of the University of St. Gallen apply in a subsidiary fashion.

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

3. Examination sub part (3/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (40%)

Remark

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Examination-aid rule

Term papers

- Term papers must be written without anyone else's help and in accordance with the known quotation standards, and they must contain a declaration of authorship.



- The documentation of sources (quotations, bibliography) has to be done throughout and consistently in accordance with the APA or MLA standards. The indications of the sources of information taken over verbatim or in paraphrase (quotations) must be integrated into the text in accordance with the precepts of the applicable quotation standard, while informative and bibliographical notes must be added as footnotes (recommendations and standards can be found, for example, in METZGER, C. (2017), Lern- und Arbeitsstrategien (12th ed., Cornelsen Schweiz).
- For any work written at the HSG, the indication of the page numbers both according to the MLA and the APA standard is never optional.
- Where there are no page numbers in sources, precise references must be provided in a different way: titles of chapters or sections, section numbers, acts, scenes, verses, etc.
- For papers in law, the legal standard is recommended (by way of example, cf. FORSTMOSER, P., OGOREK R. et SCHINDLER B. (2018), Juristisches Arbeiten: Eine Anleitung für Studierende (6. Auflage), Zürich: Schulthess, or the recommendations of the Law School).

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Examination content

The evaluation for this course is based on an empirical assignment (40%), a presentation (20%) and a final exam (40%).

The exam is a closed book exam and will take place in the last session of the course. For the presentation, students will present in group of 2 a paper discussion from voxdev.org. Group work on the empirical assignment is encouraged, but students should write up their codes individually. Each student will be assigned a country survey from the WorldBank. On a weekly basis, students will incrementally construct a dataset in class under my close supervision following a set of established guidelines. This data exercise could potentially be used for the purpose of a Bachelor Thesis.

Examination relevant literature

All the material covered in class is exam-relevant.

Please note

Please note that this fact sheet alone is binding and has priority over any other information such as StudyNet (Canvas), personal databases or faculty members' websites and information provided in their lectures, etc.

Any possible references and links within the fact sheet to information provided by third parties are merely supplementary and informative in nature and are outside the University of St.Gallen's scope of responsibility and guarantee.

Documents and materials that have been submitted no later than the end of term time (CW51) are relevant to central examinations.

Binding nature of the fact sheet:

- Information about courses and examination time (central/decentral) and examination type starting from the beginning of the bidding on 22 August 2019
- Information about examinations (examination aid regulations, examination content, examination-relevant literature) for decentral examinations after the 4th semester week on 14 October 2019
- Information about examinations (examination aid regulations, examination content, examination-relevant literature) for central examinations as from the starting date for examination registration on 4 November 2019

Please consult the fact sheet again after these deadlines have expired.



University of St.Gallen