



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2022

8,277: Macroeconomics, Development and Agriculture

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - Written examination (with defined exam duration) (100%, 90 mins.)

Examination time: term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[8,277,1.00 Macroeconomics, Development and Agriculture](#) -- Englisch -- [Boppart Timo](#), [Gottlieb Charles](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

This course builds on concepts introduced in Macroeconomics I, in particular a good knowledge of the neoclassical growth model is advantageous.

Learning objectives

The objective of this course is to provide students a good understanding of the sources and drivers of cross-country differences in income levels. In particular, our aim is to understand the key role played by agriculture in the process of economic development.

Course content

In today's world, income per capita differences are staggering and range from 1,000 US\$ to 70,000 US\$. This course seeks to acquaint students with 1) stylized facts about income differences across the globe 2) theories and empirical methods to better understand the drivers of these large differences in income levels.

In this course, we study these cross-country differences in income per capita using the development accounting methodology. We then take a special focus on agriculture which is the dominant sector in developing countries, and therefore key to understand why country income levels remain low. We study to what extent the frictions and distortions in land, labor, intermediate inputs and capital markets can explain the low observed agricultural productivity in poor countries. Subsequently, we study the process of industrialization and relaxation of production factors from the agricultural sector as an economy develops, i.e., structural transformation, and the consequences thereof at the aggregate level.

In this course, we will discuss the following six topics:

1. Development accounting
2. Misallocation
3. Structural change
4. The intensification of agriculture
5. Agricultural productivity gap
6. Land markets
7. Gender

Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

The course consists of 5 four-hours lectures. In each lecture, the lecturers will be delivering a lecture and solving exercises in class. The exam will take place in class in the last week of the course.



Course literature

- Daron Acemoglu. Introduction to modern economic growth. Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, NJ, 2009
- Philippe Aghion and Peter W Howitt. The economics of growth. MIT press, 2008
- Timo Boppart, Patrick Kiernan, Per Krusell, and Hannes Malmberg. The macroeconomics of intensive agriculture. Technical report, Mimeo, Stockholm University, 2019
- Francesco Caselli. Accounting for cross-country income differences. Handbook of economic growth, 1:679-741, 2005
- Angus Deaton. The Analysis of Household Surveys. Number 30394 in World Bank Publications. The World Bank, November 2019
- Douglas Gollin, David Lagakos, and Michael E. Waugh. The Agricultural Productivity Gap. The Quarterly Journal of Economics, 129(2):939-993, 2014
- Charles Gottlieb and Jan Grobovek. Communal land and agricultural productivity. Journal of Development Economics, 138:135-152, 2019
- Robert E. Hall and Charles I. Jones. Why do Some Countries Produce So Much More Output Per Worker than Others?*. The Quarterly Journal of Economics, 114(1):83-116, 02 1999
- Berthold Herrendorf, Richard Rogerson, and Akos Valentinyi. Growth and structural transformation. In Handbook of economic growth, volume 2, pages 855-941. Elsevier, 2014
- David Lagakos and Michael E. Waugh. Selection, agriculture, and cross-country productivity differences. American Economic Review, 103(2):948-80, April 2013
- Diego Restuccia and Richard Rogerson. The causes and costs of misallocation. Journal of Economic Perspectives, 31(3):151-74, August 2017
- Diego Restuccia and Richard Rogerson. Misallocation and productivity. Review of Economic Dynamics, 16(1):1-10, 2013. Special issue: Misallocation and Productivity

Additional course information

In the case of the President's Board having to implement new directives due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in SpS2022, the course information listed above will be changed as follows:

- The course is conducted online via the platform Zoom
- The recordings of the course will not be saved.
- The lecturer informs StudyNet on the changed implementation modalities of the course.

The examination information listed below would be changed as follows:

- The written examination are conducted online and are being recorded.

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/1)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Written examination (with defined exam duration) (100%, 90 mins.)

Examination time: term time

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, 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

Examination content

The closed book exam will consist of two exercises, and each exercise will cover one of the six lecture topics covered in class. These are:

1. Development accounting
2. Misallocation
3. Structural change
4. The intensification of agriculture
5. Agricultural productivity gap
6. Land markets
7. Gender

Examination relevant literature

The relevant material for the exam is the lecture slides provided by the lecturers and the exercises discussed in class. Any material uploaded to Canvas will be made available by the last session.



Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW21) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 12 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 04 (Thursday, 27 January 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 21 March 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 21 March 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the registration period in CW 15 (Monday, 11 April 2022).