

ECON 3740 Economics of Human Resources (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: ECON 1210 Principles of Microeconomics or
ECON 1620 Basic Economic Principles

This course aims to provide an understanding of the human resources market and its related issues. It seeks to describe and analyse the behaviour of the human resources market from an economic perspective. Issues of investment in human resources (education and on-the-job training), pay differentials and discrimination in the workplace are discussed. Concepts in the area of human resources, such as work incentive schemes, payment methods, and employer and employee relationship, are also presented. To enhance the understanding and application of the concepts, training on data analysis and knowledge of analytical tools are provided.

ECON 4005 China's Foreign Economic Relations and Trade (3,3,0) (E)

Prerequisite: CHSE 1005 Essentials of Economics or ECON 1005 Principles of Economics I or ECON1006 Principles of Economics II or ECON 1007 Basic Economic Principles

This course aims to introduce students the basic features and economic impacts of China's foreign economic relations and trade, with emphasis on reform and changes in the post-1978 period. The first part of the course provides a theoretical as well as empirical framework for analysis of China's foreign trade issues. The second part of the course examines and assesses recent developments of foreign investment in China.

ECON 4006 Economic and Business Forecasting (3,3,0) (E)

Prerequisite: ECON 3005 Applied Econometrics or equivalent

This course aims to introduce quantitative methods and techniques for time series modelling, analysis, and forecasting of economic and business data. Topics include time series properties of fluctuation, cycle, seasonality, trend, unit roots tests for stationary. Models such as autoregressive and distribution lags, moving average and exponential smoothing, ARIMA, VAR and Error Correction (EC), ARCH and GARCH, Logit and Probit models will be discussed with both statistical theory and practical methods of model building and analysis. Emphasis will also be put on the applications in economic and business related areas. Computing is an integral part of this course, all students are required to do data analysis, modelling and forecasting with computer statistics software.

ECON 4007 Money and Finance in China (3,3,0) (E)

Prerequisite: CHSE 2005 Foundations of Chinese Economy or ECON 1006 Principles of Economics II or ECON 1007 Basic Economic Principles

This course aims at fostering an understanding of the functions and the administration of money and finance in Mainland China, and their impact on the economy at both the micro and the macro levels. Fiscal, monetary and exchange rate systems will be analyzed from optimality as well as policy viewpoints. The developments of the post-1979 and post-1994 financial reforms and their policy implications will be emphasised. Financial relations between the Mainland and Hong Kong will also be investigated.

ECON 7080 Economics of Public Policy (3,3,0)

This course is designed to help students understand the analytical tools of economics and apply them to major public policy issues such as the minimum wage, rent controls, international trade and globalization, income distribution, public goods, urban development, traffic congestion and urban crime. The course aims to help students master principles of economics in formulating public policy.

ECON 7090 Business Economics (3,3,0) (E)

Business economics studies how to apply micro and macro economic models and analyses to make business decisions and to predict the changes in business environment. We (1) introduce

and apply economic theory necessary for sound business decision-making, and (2) enable students to understand the effects of changes in macroeconomic environment, government fiscal and monetary policies, and international events for making favorable decisions.

ECON 7100 Research Workshops and Seminars (3,3,0) (E)

This course aims at preparing students for carrying out academic and applied research work. Students will learn how to identify economic issues, develop testable hypotheses, apply appropriate analytical tools, and write term papers. By means of lectures, company visits, seminars and workshops, the course provides students a thorough understanding of the entire process of doing academic research or applied research in the areas of Economics. Inviting professionals, industry leaders and government officials as guest speakers will enrich students' exposure to the current issues in the economy.

ECON 7110 Advanced Econometrics (3,3,0)

The goal of the course is to provide students with advanced theories in econometrics. The emphasis is on theoretical underpinnings and unifying themes, to be supplemented by applied computer work. Students completed this course should be able to conduct sophisticated empirical research.

ECON 7150 Advanced Microeconomics (4,4,0) (E)

This course educates students advanced treatments of microeconomics by emphasizing more rigorous proofs. Students will investigate the optimization behaviour of individual agents as well as resource allocation in a decentralized economy. Uncertainty and strategic behaviours will be introduced in this course, too.

ECON 7160 Advanced Macroeconomics (4,4,0) (E)

The course introduces students to important topics in macroeconomics, including growth theories, business cycles, New Keynesian theories, and recent development in macroeconomics. Both theoretical and empirical aspects are the focus of the course. While the theoretical models offer qualitative insights into the working of the economy, the emphasis of the empirical techniques allow students to estimate the economic models and enable them to make use insights for the most current economic studies into the effect of government policy on the economy. With the building of knowledge on both qualitative and quantitative macroeconomics, students are equipped with tools needed for understanding and conducting macroeconomic policy analysis.

ECON 7170 Applied Econometric Analysis (4,4,0) (E)

This course aims at covering graduate level applied econometric techniques to quantitatively solve empirical economic problems. In addition to the classical linear regression model, hypothesis testing and problems of non-spherical disturbances, more advanced topics are also considered. Students will be trained to formulate econometric models and to identify the causal relationships between economic variables using computer software. The emphasis is upon the interpretation and testing of results from different econometric estimation procedures. Students will also be provided with practical experience of applying these techniques to quantitatively solve empirical problems that arise in economics and business.

ECON 7210 International Trade (3,3,0) (E)

This course aims to provide an up-to-date and understandable analytical framework for illustrating current events of international trade. Most of the time will be devoted to understand the classical as well as modern theories of international trade, trade policy and international economic integration. Topics in international economics with an emphasis on current issues like globalization, financial crisis, regionalism, will then be studied.

ECON 7220 International Finance (3,3,0) (E)

This course provides students with an understanding of international finance concepts and applied techniques to

international financial management and investment. This course focus on the foreign exchange markets and international capital markets, and understand how international firms make financial decisions of foreign investment, and measure foreign exchange risk in the present global financial environment. The course is organized in three parts: (1) introduction of international financial environment and the important international macroeconomic concepts; (2) understanding the foreign exchange rate market, the exchange rate determinations with its theoretical analysis and forecasting, and the foreign exchange risk and its management; (3) focus on international portfolio investment strategies and the exchange risk management.

ECON 7230 Monetary Economics (3,3,0)

This course discusses the impacts of money demand and money supply, and therefore monetary policies on output, employment, and inflation. The role of central bank and its interaction with firms and workers, more specifically, how it should carry out monetary policies in face of the rational expectations of these economic agents in the private sector, will be evaluated. In addition, under the rapid globalization, impacts of one country's monetary policy on exchange rates and other country's economies will also be studied. After taking this course, students are expected to be able to explain different phenomenon of the macro-economy and make forecasts about the basic macro-economic trends.

ECON 7240 Economic Development and Growth (3,3,0) (E)

The aim of this course is to examine the driving forces and mechanisms of economic development and growth. We will explain and discuss economic models and perspectives on development and growth, go through the empirical findings on the issues and assess the difference and growth potentials across countries.

ECON 7250 Financial Economics (3,3,0) (E)

This course provides an introduction to financial economics. The topics include an introduction of capital markets, consumption and investment, capital budgeting, the theory of choice, valuation of securities, portfolio analysis, bond analysis, options and futures markets, International Financial Management, and Efficient Capital Markets. It will also provide students with knowledge and skills in applications of modern finance theory to risk management and other issues in economics and financial markets. Applications of the theory are emphasized throughout the course.

ECON 7260 Economic Analysis of the Firm (3,3,0)

This course introduces theories that explain the sizes, scopes, internal structures, and the kinds of contractual relations that characterize business firms. Issues addressed include: why firms exist, how firms are established, and what contributions firms make to the economy. The course provides innovative models of economic equilibrium that endogenously determine the structure and function of economic institutions. The entrepreneur as a decision maker is analysed in details. In addition to the role of a producer, the firm as an intermediary and as a market maker is also discussed.

ECON 7270 Topics in Microeconomics (3,3,0)

This course aims at bringing current development of microeconomics to students. The topics may vary from year to year, depending on the research and teaching interest of instructors. Those topics are usually not covered or covered only briefly in ECON 7150. Some examples of topics are: theory of incentives, theory of organizations, mechanism design, modelling multi-person strategic behaviour, general equilibrium, modelling multi-output production, etc. Three to five topics will be covered thoroughly in one semester.

ECON 7280 Topics in Macroeconomics (3,3,0)

This course educates students in knowing the latest development of macroeconomics. The topics may vary from year to year, depending on the research and teaching interest of instructors.

Some examples of topics are (i) how macroeconomic theories can be applied to understand the complex functioning of a modern market economy, (ii) why fluctuations in aggregate economic activity and sometimes crisis may occur in an economy and (iii) how government policies may be used to stabilize the functioning of an economy. Current macroeconomics issues will be discussed, too, for example, the causes and remedies of (1) the global financial crisis of 2008, (2) the European sovereign debt crisis and (3) the long-term stagnation in Japan.

ECON 7310 Economic Institutions in China (3,3,0) (E)

This course studies key economic institutions of China that have emerged in the course of transition from a planned to a market economy. These institutions are not necessarily the first-best choices from the perspective of conventional theories of market economy, but they might overcome some typical institutional weaknesses of transitional economies. They include the double-track pricing and allocation system, local government ownership of firms, fiscal decentralization and yardstick competition among different regional jurisdictions, etc. Drawing on the major contributions in the economics literature, the costs and benefits of adopting these institutions by China will be analysed.

ECON 7320 Public Finance and Monetary Economics in China (3,3,0) (E)

This course aims at providing an in-depth understanding of the functions and the performance of China's fiscal, monetary and exchange rate systems, as well as their impact on the economy. After explaining major trends in those changing regimes, their developments in the post-1994 and post-2001 periods are analysed, using theoretical models and econometric techniques to tackle critical issues.

Regarding the fiscal system, the course emphasizes topics such as central-local intergovernmental relations, the transition from contracts to tax assignment, and the impact of patterns of taxation and public expenditure on macroeconomic development and income distribution, amongst others. Sterilization operations for a semi-open monetary regime and increasing flexibility of the exchange rate form the foci for discussion of the challenges facing the People's Bank of China, on top of the reforms of monetary tools and capital account liberalization.

The reactions and effectiveness of China's fiscal-monetary mix in alleviating the adverse consequences of the global economic crisis which began to unfold from the fourth quarter of 2008 are to be reviewed. The course ends by an investigation of the evolving financial relations between the Mainland and Hong Kong.

ECON 7330 Foreign Economic Policies of China (3,3,0) (E)

This course discusses the foreign economic relations of China with the rest of the world and the foreign economic policies of China. It explores how and why China integrates its economy with the world economy, major conflicts with other countries, and how some of the conflicts were resolved or minimized. Topics covered include China's trade with other countries, accession to the World Trade Organization, currency policy, and free trade areas. Also covered are the relations between economic growth and foreign economic policies and the relations between domestic policies and foreign policies. Students can learn from this course not only how a developing country like China can benefit from foreign trade but also the major conflicts China has with other countries.

ECON 7340 Productivity Analysis of the Chinese Economy (3,3,0) (E)

This course is an interdisciplinary field of economics, management science, mathematics and econometrics. It aims at applying advanced production theory and quantitative techniques for performance gauging in multi-input, multi-output organizations. The productivity of individual enterprises as well as the whole economy is the focus. Students will obtain hands-on experience such as evaluating the efficiency losses of firms in various industries and the welfare losses of regional fragmentations. The productivity growth of the Chinese economy before and after the economic reform will also be studied.