Content

Course Code	Course Name	Semester	Theory	Practice	Lab	Credit	ECTS
ECON442	Political Economy and Institutions	7	3	0	0	3	6

Prerequisites	
Admission Requirements	

Language of Instruction	French
Course Type	Elective
Course Level	Bachelor Degree
Objective	The course aims to examine the application of economic theory to social and political issues through selected articles and to provide an understanding of different approaches in institutional economics using quantitative methods.
Content	The course will primarily be structured around articles assigned each week. Following student presentations, the topics will be discussed from conceptual and methodological perspectives and assessed using a comparative approach.

References	Weeks 1–3 – Institutions and Development Acemoglu, D., Johnson, S., & Robinson, J. A. (2001). “The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation.” American Economic Review. Week 4 – Factor Endowment Hypothesis Easterly, W. (2007). “Inequality Does Cause Underdevelopment: Insights from a New Instrument.” Journal of Development Economics. Week 5 – Emergence of Democracy I Acemoglu, D., & Robinson, J. A. (2005). Economic Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy, Chapters 1–3. Week 6 – Emergence of Democracy II / Limited Access Orders Van Bavel, B., Ansink, E., & Van Besouw, B. (2017). “Understanding the Economics of Limited Access Orders.” Journal of Institutional Economics. Week 7 – Economic Rules vs. Institutions Acemoglu, D., & Robinson, J. A. (2015). “The Rise and Decline of General Laws of Capitalism.” Journal of Economic Perspectives. Week 8 – Identity Matters Greif, A. (1994). “Cultural Beliefs and the Organization of Society.” Journal of Political Economy. Week 9 – Culture and Its Relevance Guiso, L., Sapienza, P., & Zingales, L. (2006). “Does Culture Affect Economic Outcomes?” Journal of Economic Perspectives. Week 10 – Economic Incentives and Endowments Banerjee, A., & Iyer, L. (2005). “History, Institutions, and Economic Performance: The Legacy of Colonial Land Tenure Systems in India.” American Economic Review. Week 11 – Middle East and Institutional Heritage Kuran, T. (2004). “Why the Middle East Is Economically Underdeveloped: Historical Mechanisms of Institutional Stagnation.” Journal of Economic Perspectives. Week 12 – Trust Nunn, N., & Wantchekon, L. (2011). “The Slave Trade and the Origins of Mistrust in Africa.” American Economic Review. Week 13 – Social Structures: Gender Roles and Culture Alesina, A., Giuliano, P., & Nunn, N. (2013). “On the Origins of Gender Roles: Women and the Plough.” Quarterly Journal of Economics. Week 14 – Constitutions and Economic Performance Blume, L., Müller, J., Voigt, S., & Wolf, C. (2009). “The Economic Effects of Constitutions: Replicating and Extending Persson and Tabellini.” Public Choice.

Theory Topics

Week	Weekly Contents
1	Concept of Institution and social conflict
2	Economic origins of democracy 1
3	Economic origins of democracy 2
4	Factor endowment hypothesis
5	Economic laws and institutions
6	Cultural beliefs and the organization of society 1
7	Cultural beliefs and the organization of society 2
8	Economic incentives and natural resources
9	Middle East and institutional heritage
10	Trust and growth

Week	Weekly Contents
11	Social structures
12	Social capital
13	Ideas and instutions
14	Economic effects of constitutions