



UPPSALA
UNIVERSITET



THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT & GLOBALISATION
COURSE INFORMATION





The Global Economy - Environment, Development and Globalisation 15 ECTS • Autumn Semester 2018

What is the real wealth of nations? How is the global economic system performing under increasing ecological and social pressures? Which institutions and actors have the best opportunities to work towards building desirable and sustainable economies?

The course aims to present a variety of theoretical perspectives on issues concerning the economy in the context of sustainable development. After covering some basics of neoclassical theory, students are exposed to a plurality of perspectives both within the discipline of economics (e.g. ecological, feminist or institutional economics) and beyond (e.g. economic sociology, behavioural economics or economic geography). Attention is focused on giving students a basic economic literacy including good knowledge of institutions, indicators and policies affecting the global economy as well as a strong understanding of economic history and the history of economic thought.

Through the semester, students explore different topics ranging from globalisation, growth and development to finance, technological progress and trade. Keeping a good balance between the abstract and the concrete, and the specific and the general, the course constitutes a basic toolbox to understand economies in the 21st century.

Gny Finkill and Aaron Tuckey, course coordinators

COURSE STRUCTURE

The course is divided into three sections (modules 1–3). Each module ends with a seminar and an examination task. The course is structured around a lecture series, in which numerous lecturers and authorities from different fields are invited to share their knowledge and experience. Invited lecturers come not only from within academia. Many bring professional experience from the field, including politics, non-governmental organisations and civil society.

The first part of the course (Module 1), titled **“The Birth of the Global Economy: A Short History of Modern Economic Thought”**, provides a historical background to the ideas that shaped the construction of the global economy. In a pluralist manner (i.e. bringing in perspectives from various schools of thought), the module introduces the key concepts in economic theory required to understand the modern development of our economies.

The second part (Module 2), titled **“Understanding Economies: Dynamics and Patterns of Social-Ecological Systems”** gives an overview of how various institutions, agencies and actors operate in the global economy. Issues of power, justice and equality are discussed while economic systems are shown to be integrated within social-ecological systems.

The third part (Module 3) is titled **“Possible (R)evolution(s): Perspectives on Alternative Economies”** and focuses on alternative frames and concrete proposals aiming to build more sustainable and desirable economies.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Lectures and Workshops

The course has sessions on Monday and Wednesday evenings. The lectures generally last about two hours from 17:15 to 19:30 and have a 10-minute break in the middle (note the 'academic quarter', which is common at Uppsala University, but please arrive on time). Some specific sessions continue to 20:00, as marked on the schedule. We encourage all lecturers to engage with the class, and we encourage you to raise questions, be critical of their assertions and point of views. The discussions, when scheduled, will be based on the course literature and the guest lecturers' presentation. Two workshops have also been scheduled which will allow time for hands-on experimentation where we will investigate case examples in a student-led format. In case of sudden changes in the schedule, these will be announced on the course page. Please visit the course page regularly (**at least every weekend**) to get the latest updates.

Seminars

Seminars are scheduled for the end of each module (so, three in total). They are three hours long (17:15 - 20:00), and allow us to review the module through discussions, presentations and role-play, as well as reflect on examination tasks done prior to the seminar. The seminars will be linked with examination tasks, in the form of written assignments (individual or in groups), individual or collaborative exams and presentations. Sometimes preparatory tasks need to be handed in, check the examination schedule for more info.

Debate

The final session of module two, Wednesday November 14, is set aside for an improvised participatory debate. It will be based on the Caen debating style, similar to a panel discussion. Students will be divided into teams and topics and given preparation time to construct a team case and prepare individual remarks. You will receive an introduction to debating in the session preceding the debate: Monday November 12.

Exams

There will be one compulsory collaborative exam during the semester. The exam (Monday, December 17th) will cover the totality of the course. More information will follow that is specific to the exam.

Workload

The course is 15 ECTS and given part time at 50% for the fall semester. This means it is considered 50% of a full-time study workload for a semester. The autumn semester 2018 at Uppsala University runs from September 3 to January 20, 2019. However, our final class is December 19. For those on scholarships, CSN, etc. the official course running time is the full semester from September–January. Finishing in December does not mean you do less work however, as the workload is more condensed, - i.e. the same as if the course finished in January. The workload is approximately 20 hours per week. In-class time makes up a total of 5–6 hours per week. Work on written assignments, reading literature and viewing media material, and preparation for classes, seminars etc. makes up the remaining 14 hours. Based on student feedback from previous years, the course requires a relatively large amount of work for students.

Location

Lectures will take place in Hörsal 1 or 2 at Ekonomikum (Kyrkogårdsgatan 10A), whilst seminars will take place at Kollaboratoriet, Östra Ågatan 19. Please check the course schedule for more information. Our offices are located at CEMUS headquarters at Geocentrum. However, as we only work park time it is best to email us rather than drop-in.



Reading

Course literature consists of

- The Literature Compilation, a set of readings compiled by the course coordinators and the guest lecturers.
- 3 Course Books
 - Economix – Michael Goodwin
 - Making Globalization Work – Joseph Stiglitz
 - Doughnut Economics – Kate Raworth

More information on course literature can be found on the [course website](#).

Learning Outcomes

The learning outcomes represent the formal constitution of the course and are the goals that are formally examined. They are listed as follows. On completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- analyse different ways to measure development, poverty and welfare;
- relate to historical perspectives on economic thinking and economic development;
- critically analyse corporations role and societal responsibility from a global perspective;
- reflexively highlight and discuss global power relations and apply a justice perspective on the sustainability challenge;
- analyse the global economic system and its institutions, actors and trends from a transdisciplinary perspective;
- from a multidisciplinary perspective compare and critically analyse the basic assumptions, explanatory models and proposed solutions of different economic theories in relation to the present sustainability challenge.

Evaluation and Feedback

The course coordinators work hard to make the course as interesting and meaningful as possible. We appreciate constructive critique and we will have evaluations at the conclusion of each module. However, please feel welcome to come to us with – or email us – suggestions at any time during the semester.



ASSESSMENT AND REQUIREMENTS

The Global Economy is a graded course. While not all elements of the examination are graded, all requirements must be met in order to pass the course. Graded components of the course are marked below. You can find the grading criteria under the 'Course Essentials' tab in Studentportalen. In order to pass the course, the following criteria will have to be met:

Active Participation

Through a series of tasks, both written and oral, you must demonstrate that you are actively participating in the course and are reading and reflecting on the literature.

All the sessions in the course are classified as mandatory classes to attend with the exception of the movie nights (see schedule). Failure to attend a class will result in a make-up task that will have to be completed in order to pass the course. The make-up tasks will vary in difficulty based on the importance of the session missed. Seminars and examination sessions will require a significantly larger make-up task than a missed lecture for example.

Module I: The Birth of the Global Economy – A short history of modern economic thought

- Discussion Groups: each week students will meet to discuss set readings and submit group responses to set questions.
- Individual Assignment 1: 'Delving into Development'
Due: Monday, October 8th
- Literature Review Seminar 1 + In Class Quiz: The Global Economy
Wednesday, October 3rd

Module II: Understanding Economies – Dynamics and patterns of social ecological systems

- International Trade Workshop
Wednesday, October 10th
- Group Case-Study Presentation
Dates to be assigned
- *Group Case-Study Report*
To be handed-in 2 weeks after your group presentation.
- Literature Review Seminar 2 + Debating Workshop
Monday, November 12th
- Improvised Debate
Wednesday, November 14th
- Individual Reflection on Case-Study Assignment
Monday, November 26th

Module III: Possible (R)evolution(s) – Perspectives on alternative economies

- Economic Futures Video Report
 - Hand in before the final session (December 19th)
- Individual Assignment 3:
 - Hand in Draft for Peer Review
Due: Monday, December 10th
 - Hand in Peer Review Feedback
Due: Friday, December 14th
 - Final version (graded)
Due: Friday, December 21st
- Collaborative Exam (in class)
Monday, December 17th



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THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE COURSE

Guy Finkill is coming to the end of his studies in a master's degree in 'Sustainable Development' here at Uppsala University. He comes from the North East of the UK and has spent time teaching English in Argentina. He's also the course coordinator for another CEMUS course, 'Actors & Strategies for change: Towards Global Sustainabilities'. His Bachelor's Degree was in Media & Popular Culture.

Aaron Tuckey is currently completing a master's degree in 'Social-Ecological Resilience for Sustainable Development' at the Stockholm Resilience Centre. He holds an Honours Degree in Political Science from the University of Western Australia where he has also worked as a tutor. He has also worked with education and sustainability NGOs in Australia and Colombia and has been course coordinator for another CEMUS course, 'Technology, Power and the Future of Humanity'.

WORK GROUP

All CEMUS courses include a 'Work Group' of senior teachers and researchers from Uppsala University and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU). The work group helps to shape the course and ensure it meets the goals for the learning outcomes. They contribute with ideas and support for lectures, literature, creative seminars and examination methods. They also help to formally examine the students of the course.

Lakin Anderson is a former course coordinator of the Global Economy. He has a bachelor's degree in Media and Communications and a master's degree in Sustainable Development from Uppsala University. He is a current PhD student at Uppsala University's Department of Business Studies.

Mostafa Amr Bayoumi is a masters' student of the Sustainable Development program at Uppsala University. He completed his bachelor's degree in Electro-Mechanical Engineering at Alexandria University. Along with several classmates, Mostafa initiated Rethinking Economics Uppsala which is a student organization with the aim of promoting a pluralistic approach to economics.

Karl Malmberg took the course in 2017. He is a current bachelor's student at Uppsala University.

Daniel Mossberg is Director of Studies at CEMUS as well as the course resource person for 'The Global Economy'. He has worked at CEMUS since 2004 and has a background in cultural anthropology, practical philosophy and sustainable development.

CEMUS EDUCATION

The education at CEMUS focuses on a comprehensive understanding of the challenges of sustainable development. This demands innovative teaching methods and an interdisciplinary approach. Since its inception, CEMUS courses have been run by students with the continual support of work groups and educational staff, whose members include professors and researchers from Uppsala's two universities.

CEMUS' primary point of departure and approach is based on what has become known as "Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)". Through democratic, realistic and extensive work modes, this teaching method strives to motivate students to heighten their critical thinking skills, as well as encourage responsibility and engagement in the issues of sustainable development.

The courses at CEMUS also function as a complement to the universities' specialised and disciplinary education. CEMUS is constantly widening its scope to address the most current debates in our society, as well as requests from students. Around 800 students per year take part in one of the many different courses offered at CEMUS.



About CEMUS

CEMUS has as its goal to advance and inspire education and knowledge within the field of environment and development studies, as well as other boundary-transcending issues connected to sustainable development.

CEMUS began as an initiative by students in the early 90's and CEMUS courses are, in large part, still run by students today. The coordinators at CEMUS help create and run CEMUS courses, at both entry and advanced levels, and they work in close collaboration with well-respected teachers and researchers from both universities.

More information about us can be found at www.web.cemus.se

CEMUS is also active via Facebook and twitter:

<https://www.facebook.com/cemusuppsala/>

<https://twitter.com/CEMUSUPPSALA>

This autumn CEMUS is offering the following courses:

Autumn 2018

- Global Challenges & Sustainable Futures, 7.5 ECTS
- Critical Perspectives on Sustainable Development in Sweden, 7.5 ECTS
- The Global Economy – Environment, Development and Globalisation, 15 ECTS
- Climate Change Leadership in Practice, 30 ECTS
- Sustainable Development - Project Management and Communication, 15 ECTS
- Hållbar Utveckling A, 30 ECTS
- Global miljöhistoria, 7.5 ECTS
- Klimatet, energin och det moderna samhället, 7.5 ECTS

CEMUS Forum

CEMUS is also a meeting place – or forum – for students, organisations, researchers, the private sector and others with an interest in questions concerning sustainable development. CEMUS offers a place for a wide spectrum of different kinds of meetings and activities.

CEMUS Roots

CEMUS Roots is the name of CEMUS' student organisation. CEMUS Roots organises activities, seminars, and more, depending on current interests of the students. Many short term and ongoing projects have launched from CEMUS Roots. To get involved, visit the CEMUS Project Café at the start of the term on **Thursday, September 13 15:15-17 @ CEMUS Library/Lounge, Geocentrum** (see your schedule or ask any staff at CEMUS for dates) and throughout the term.



Practical Information

CEMUS is open between 9:00am and 3:30pm, Mondays to Fridays. If you want to use the computers or study in the library outside these hours or during weekends, you can easily get a key card. To get a key card, go to the building attendant's office next door to the library in Geocentrum.

In the CEMUS library you will find literature related to environment and development issues, up-to-date magazines and journals. These are supposed to be used by students and personnel at CSD Uppsala only. You can also have a cup of coffee from the nearby coffee shop, slouch in the sofas and read the course literature. All the course literature for CEMUS courses is available there, but only for reading inside the library, not taking home. Other books that are not course literature are available to borrow. You can use our facilities for organising open meetings, conferences, seminars, movie shows, lectures, etc. Send an e-mail to info@cemus.uu.se for more information and help.

The Language Workshop (Språkverkstaden) at Uppsala University

The Language Workshop offers consultations about written and oral presentations on an individual basis in both Swedish and English. It is free of charge and available to all students on the undergraduate and master's levels. We strongly encourage you to get in touch with the Language Workshop if you are struggling with a paper or want to improve your written English. Their webpage is www.sprakverkstaden.uu.se.

CONTACT INFORMATION & CONSULTATION HOURS

If you have any questions regarding the course, please contact us. The best way is by email, either the course email address or our personal email addresses. You can of course come by our office, but since we do not work full time we cannot guarantee we will be there. We will most likely be in the office in the hours leading up to the lectures on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Course e-mail (best way to contact course coordinators): gec@cemus.uu.se

Guy's e-mail: guy.finkill@cemus.uu.se

Aaron's e-mail: aaron.tuckey@cemus.uu.se

Course portal: www.web.cemus.se/gec

[2018 Facebook-page](#)

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Welcome to The Global Economy!

Guy Finkill and Aaron Tuckey– Course Coordinators