

Course Outline

EE 406 Contemporary Economic Issues Semester 1/2021 (10 August – 28 November 2021)

Number of credits:	3 credits (3-0-6)
Lecture Time:	Section 046401: Wednesday and Friday, 09.30 – 11.00 hours
Lecture Venue:	Zoom meeting: https://zoom.us/j/95580066719
Instructor:	Section 046401: Assit.Prof. Nattapong Puttanapong, (Ph.D.) Office: 3, Faculty of Economics, Tha Prachan campus Email: nattapong@econ.tu.ac.th

Course Description:

EE406 is a general introduction to the subject matter and methods of economics, through the investigation of specific contemporary economic issues such as economic growth, inequality, poverty, and environmental deterioration.

Course Objectives:

This course aims to provide students with a general knowledge about “contemporary” economic issues such as that of inequality, poverty, labour market, social welfare, and environmental deterioration. To do so, the course will spend its focus on epidemics, and the significance of its relationship to the economy, politics, as well as historical changes.

The course is therefore naturally quite a departure from orthodox economics – and offer a more interdisciplinary approach to economic analyses. By doing so, this aim to

1. Equip students with tools to understand economic issues using definitions, principles, measurement, and observation;
2. Make students acquainted with economic data such as poverty rate, inequality indicators, labor market statistics, and alternative data;
3. Train students on academic writing and presentation through class assignments and guide the development of research methods.

Specifically, the main approach of this section (046401) is ‘data-driven’. An instructor will introduce the sets of alternative data and research methods. Then, students are encouraged to apply these data and methods to their topics of interest. Hence, all topics of group projects and individual paper are based on students’ preference.

Prerequisites: *EE211 and EE212*

Evaluation:

Class presentation #1 (group project)	15%
Class presentation #2 (group project)	15%
Class presentation #3 (group project)	15%
Class presentation #4 (group project)	15%
Final paper (individual paper)	30%
Class participation	10%

Recommended readings:

All readings for each lecture are listed in the attached sheet.

Class Policies:

Attendance is strictly required. It is the responsibility of the students to obtain any information announced in the class. Ignorance of such information due to absence of class is not a valid defense.

If a student has any question about the lecture, it is highly encouraged to raise them in class. Please do not hesitate to consult the lecturer after the class or via appointment.

Students are encouraged to work together and exchange ideas outside of class. However, plagiarism and cheating will be treated seriously with disciplinary actions. Thammasat University and our faculty take academic integrity extremely seriously, and there will be academic consequences if you are found possibly guilty of misconducts. Please refer to the university guidelines if you have any questions.

Any changes to the course outline (if any) will be announced in the class or uploaded on *BE-moodle*.

Expected Learning Outcomes:**1. Morality and Ethics**

Applicability	Expected Learning Outcomes
↓	1.1 Students demonstrate integrity.
↓	1.2 Students prioritize social and public benefits over personal ones.
↓	1.3 Students are punctual and comply with the code of conduct of the institution and society at large.
↓	1.4 Students are responsible and accountable to society, the nation, and the subject of economics.
↓	1.5 Students realize the cultural and environmental value of the sustainable society.

2. Knowledge

Applicability	Expected Learning Outcomes
↓	2.1 Students know and understand modern economics principles and theories, and are up to date with new developments.
↓	2.2 Students know and understand Thai and global economic structure, and the importance of major international economic events.
↓	2.3 Students know and understand instruments of economic analysis.
↓	2.4 Students know and understand applied fields in economics, including monetary, public, international, business, natural resource and environmental, industrial, agricultural, cooperative, political, developmental, and entrepreneurial economics as well as agribusiness.
↓	2.5 Students are informed about related fields including sociology, business administration, education, law policy, and science.

3. Intellectual Development

Applicability	Expected Learning Outcomes
↓	3.1 Students have developed individual critical thinking.
↓	3.2 Students are sufficiently trained in research skills.
↓	3.3 Students demonstrate an ability to analyze and synthesize data, as well as appropriately integrate economics concepts to understand causes of current economic problems in Thailand. Based on analysis and synthesis, students demonstrate an ability to propose policy guidelines to resolve problems.

4. Interpersonal Skills and Responsibilities

Applicability	Expected Learning Outcomes
	4.1 Students are responsible for assigned tasks and work in groups effectively.
	4.2 Students have problem-solving skills.
	4.3 Students show leadership skills and team spirit.
	4.4 Students are always improving themselves.
	4.5 Students have good interpersonal skills, adapting and working under different conditions.

5. Quantitative Analysis, Communication and Information Technology

Applicability	Expected Learning Outcomes
	5.1 Students select and apply appropriate statistical and mathematical methods for data processing, interpretation, conclusions, and recommendations to resolve problems.
	5.2 Students communicate effectively and select appropriate presentation methods.
	5.3 Students use information and communication technologies appropriately to gather data as well as process, interpret, and present results.

Teaching Plans

Week	Date	Topic	Class arrangement
1	August 11, 2021	Introduction of Economic Growth	Lecture
	August 13, 2021	Introduction of Economic Growth	Lecture
2	August 18, 2021	Google Trend & Economic Analysis	Lecture & workshop
	August 20, 2021	Google Trend & Economic Analysis	Lecture & workshop
3	August 25, 2021	Google Mobility Index	Lecture & workshop
	August 27, 2021	Google Mobility Index	Lecture & workshop
4	September 1, 2021	Presentation of Assignment #1	Class presentation
	September 3, 2021	Presentation of Assignment #1	Class presentation
5	September 8, 2021	Social Network Analysis	Lecture
	September 10, 2021	Social Network Analysis	Lecture
6	September 15, 2021	Introduction to NodeXL	Lecture & workshop
	September 17, 2021	Introduction to NodeXL	Lecture & workshop
7	September 22, 2021	Presentation of Assignment #2	Class presentation
	September 24, 2021	Presentation of Assignment #2	Class presentation
Midterm-exam week (September 27 - October 3, 2021)			
8	October 6, 2021	Input-Output Table	Lecture
	October 8, 2021	Input-Output Table	Lecture
9-10	October 15, 2021	Network Analysis with Gephi	Lecture & workshop
	October 20, 2021	Network Analysis with Gephi	Lecture & workshop
	October 22, 2021	Network Analysis with Gephi	Lecture & workshop
11	October 27, 2021	Presentation of Assignment #3	Class presentation
	October 29, 2021	Presentation of Assignment #3	Class presentation
12	November 3, 2021	Text Analysis & RapidMiner	Lecture & workshop
	November 5, 2021	Text Analysis & RapidMiner	Lecture & workshop
13	November 10, 2021	Text Analysis & RapidMiner	Lecture & workshop

	November 12, 2021	Satellite Data & GIS	Lecture & workshop
14	November 17, 2021	Satellite Data & GIS	Lecture & workshop
	November 19, 2021	Satellite Data & GIS	Lecture & workshop
15	November 24, 2021	Presentation of Assignment #4	Class presentation
	November 26, 2021	Presentation of Assignment #4	Class presentation

ACADEMIC CALENDAR & HOLIDAY SEMESTER 1/2021

Semester 1/2021 (August 9 - November 27, 2021)	
Classes Begin	August 9, 2021
Add-drop period	August 6 - 15, 2021
Tuition Fee Installment Plan For ID.61-63 only <i>(9 AM - 10.30 PM)</i>	#Round 1 (July 16 – 18, 2021) #Round 2 (August 30 – September 3, 2021) #Round 3 (September 20 – 22, 2021)
<i>H.M. Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother's Birthday*</i>	<i>August 12, 2021</i>
<i>Prince Mahidol Day*</i>	<i>September 24, 2021</i>
Mid-term Examination Period	September 27 - October 3, 2021
Withdrawal period with "W" on record	October 11 - November 15, 2021
<i>H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great Memorial Day*</i>	<i>October 13, 2021</i>
<i>Substitution for King Chulalongkorn's Day*</i>	<i>October 22, 2021</i>
<i>King Chulalongkorn's Day*</i>	<i>October 23, 2021</i>
Last day of class for Semester 1/2021	November 27, 2021
Final exam period	November 29-30, December 1-3, 7-9, 11-17, 2021
<i>H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great's Birthday*</i>	<i>December 5, 2021</i>
<i>Substitution for H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great's Birthday*</i>	<i>December 6, 2021</i>
<i>Constitution Day*</i>	<i>December 10, 2021</i>

Remark * Holiday, No classes during this period