

Course Outline

EE406 Contemporary Economic Issues

Section 046401

Semester 1/2021

(10 August – 28 November 2021)

Number of credits: 3 credits (3-0-6)
Lecture Time: Wednesday and Friday, 09.30 – 11.00 hrs
Lecture Venue: via online (Zoom meeting)
Instructor: 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**.

Course Objectives (cont'd) :

- 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%

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**.

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)			

Teaching Plans (cont'd)

Week	Date	Topic	Class arrangement
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