



**Poor Countries, Rich Countries. Social and Economics Development in
 Comparative Perspective**
 Educational subject description sheet

Basic information

<p>Field of study Joint Bachelor in Sustainability</p> <p>Speciality Social Sciences & Humanities</p> <p>Organizational unit Faculty of Law and Administration</p> <p>Study level first cycle (joint degree programme)</p> <p>Study form full-time degree programme</p> <p>Education profile General academic</p> <p>Mandatory elective</p>	<p>Education cycle 2025/26</p> <p>Realization year 2027/28</p> <p>Subject code UJ.WPAJBSSSHS.810.16595.25</p> <p>Lecture languages english</p> <p>Subject related to scientific research Yes</p> <p>Disciplines Sociology, International Relations</p> <p>ISCED classification 0314 Sociology and cultural studies</p> <p>USOS code</p>	
Subject coordinator	Piotr Szwedo	
Lecturer	Jörg Rössel	
Period Semester 5	<p>Examination graded credit</p> <p>Activities and hours Discussion class: 30</p>	Number of ECTS points 6.0

Goals

C1	Students know about country differences in economic and social development, learn about the empirical methods to study these phenomena and their theoretical explanations.
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Subject's learning outcomes

Code	Outcomes in terms of	Effects	Examination methods
Knowledge - Student knows and understands:			
W1	the topic concerned with social and economic inequalities between countries, including their historical developments.	JBS_K1_W03, JBS_K1_W04, JBS_K1_W05, JBS_K1_W06, JBS_K1_W07	credit with grade, essay, presentation
W2	the central theoretical approaches to explaining and (critically) evaluating differences in social and economic development between countries.	JBS_K1_W03, JBS_K1_W05, JBS_K1_W07	credit with grade, essay, presentation
Skills - Student can:			
U1	independently acquire empirical and theoretical knowledge on social and economic inequalities.	JBS_K1_U01	credit with grade, essay, presentation
U2	describe, empirically study and theoretically explain country differences in social and economic development.	JBS_K1_U02, JBS_K1_U03	credit with grade, essay, presentation
Social competences - Student is ready for:			
K1	to process and present empirical and theoretical knowledge in an understandable and condensed form.	JBS_K1_K03, JBS_K1_K05	credit with grade, essay, presentation
K2	to participate critically in (advanced) social science seminar discussions with own knowledge-based positions and to defend their arguments against objections.	JBS_K1_K03, JBS_K1_K04, JBS_K1_K05	credit with grade, essay, presentation

Calculation of ECTS points

Activity form	Activity hours*
Discussion class	30
preparation of a multimedia presentation	30
preparation for classes	30
essay preparation	60
Student workload	Hours 150
	ECTS 6.0

* hour means 45 minutes

Study content

No.	Course content	Subject's learning outcomes
1.	Introduction to the topic, organization of the course	W1, W2
2.	Marxist explanations of social and economic development	W1, W2, U1, U2, K1, K2

No.	Course content	Subject's learning outcomes
3.	Bringing culture and institutions in: Max Weber and his legacy	W1, W2, U1, U2, K1, K2
4.	The Western approach: modernization theory	W1, W2, U1, U2, K1, K2
5.	Dependency theory	W1, W2, U1, U2, K1, K2
6.	World systems theory	W1, W2, U1, U2, K1, K2
7.	Getting the numbers right: worldwide economic and social development	W1, U1, U2, K1, K2
8.	What is actually development? Critical reflections	W1, W2, U1, U2, K1, K2
9.	The legacy of colonialism(s)	W1, W2, U1, U2, K1, K2
10.	The international economic and trade system	W1, W2, U1, U2, K1, K2
11.	States and institutions as contexts of development	W1, W2, U1, U2, K1, K2
12.	Foreign direct investment: a balance	W1, U1, U2, K1, K2
13.	Foreign Aid: a balance	W1, U1, U2, K1, K2
14.	Successes and failures: paired country comparisons	W1, U1, U2, K1, K2
15.	Course summary: what have we learned about economic and social development and what are open questions?	W1, W2

Course advanced

Teaching methods :

text analysis, conversation lecture, discussion, solving tasks

Activities	Examination methods	Credit conditions
Discussion class	credit with grade, essay, presentation	Presentation and written essay have to adhere to the formal standards presented in the first session to be graded as pass. The differentiation of the grade is based on the quality of the literature research and the development of the argument. The presentation and the essay are graded jointly.

Entry requirements

None

Literature

Obligatory

1. Daron Acemoglu, James A. Robinson, 2013 : Why Nations Fail. The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty. Crown Business. Robert C. Allen, 2011: Global Economic History. A Very Short Introduction. Oxford University Press. Immanuel Wallerstein, 2011: The Modern World System I: Capitalist Agriculture and the Origins of the European World-Economy in the Sixteenth Century. University of California Press.

Effects

Code	Content
JBS_K1_K03	The graduate can consider different visions of the future and develop own evidence-based opinions in reference to the balance of values linked to economic development, social welfare, and environmental protection.
JBS_K1_K04	The graduate can critically assess and verbalize own competencies and skills related to different aspects of sustainability as well as their need for development.
JBS_K1_K05	The graduate can defend the importance of scientific data and methods as a basis for decision-making.
JBS_K1_U01	The graduate can critically analyse academic literature, formulate research questions and conduct research under supervision.
JBS_K1_U02	The graduate can present and report knowledge, methodologies, ideas, problems and solutions, clearly and comprehensively, in different forms destined for different audiences - including discussions and debates which require defending a substantiated opinion, as well as conversations in a foreign language at the CEFR B2 level.
JBS_K1_U03	The graduate can apply adequate methods and tools, including selected IT tools, to solve problems related to data collection, analysis, and management in the context of sustainability.
JBS_K1_W03	The graduate can give examples of sustainability-related dilemmas and hypothesize on the optimal course of action.
JBS_K1_W04	The graduate can identify sustainability-related problems specific to selected cultural, geographical, and political contexts.
JBS_K1_W05	The graduate can identify essential international instruments and institutions related to sustainability and explain their potential role in resolution of a given problem.
JBS_K1_W06	The graduate can describe interconnections between various aspects of sustainability and identify their significance in the context of natural and social sciences, with a special focus on disciplines included in the selected specialisation track (law and politics; chemistry and physics; chemistry and biology; economics and geography; economics, management and engineering; humanities).
JBS_K1_W07	The graduate can apply the theory and methodology of disciplines included in the selected specialisation track to sustainability-related problems, taking into consideration practical limitations such as protection of intellectual property.