

**City University of Hong Kong**  
**Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Economics and Finance**  
**with effect from Semester A 2024/25**

---

---

**Part I Course Overview**

<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Professional Seminars in Applied Economics</b>
<b>Course Code:</b>	<b>EF5473</b>
<b>Course Duration:</b>	<b>Year-long</b>
<b>Credit Units:</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Level:</b>	<b>P5</b>
<b>Medium of Instruction:</b>	<b>English</b>
<b>Medium of Assessment:</b>	<b>English</b>
<b>Prerequisites:</b> <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Precursors:</b> <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Equivalent Courses:</b> <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Exclusive Courses:</b> <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<b>Nil</b>

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

This course aims at increasing students' exposure to and awareness of a wide variety of real world economic and business issues.

Through seminars delivered by economics experts and business professionals on a variety of economic and business issues, students will strengthen their discovery skills for innovative analyses of these issues. To evaluate students' accomplishments of discovery in putting forward their own analyses, and recommendations where applicable, students are required to participate in class, complete group project papers, and write two individual reports for the course.

The group project papers list the main points on what students have learned from the seminars in this course. Students will engage in group discussion, and complete several group project papers as designated by the course leader.

The individual reports reflect students' own analyses of the issues that the speakers lecture on and would provide evidence of their accomplishments of discovery. Students may expand on what the speakers lecture on for their reports. As some seminars are related to current issues with no definite resolutions of the problems, students may provide their own viewpoints in their reports that are opposite to what the speakers would present as long as they justify these views using their own analyses and recommendations. Some of these current issues may include predicting whether central banks will loosen or tighten monetary policy, whether the Hong Kong dollar should be linked to the US dollar, etc.

### 2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

*(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)*

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	Analyze and critically evaluate a wide range of different fields and topical issues in economics and business.	-	√	√	√
2.	Discuss a few topics/issues in economics and business with in-depth knowledge and analyze these topics in greater depth from various perspectives with creative abilities.	-	√	√	√
		-			

*A1: Attitude*

*Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.*

*A2: Ability*

*Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.*

*A3: Accomplishments*

*Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.*

### 3. Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

*(LTAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)*

LTA	Brief Description	CILO No.		Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	
Professional seminars and public lectures	Students will participate in professional seminars and public lectures to gain knowledge about current issues.	√	√	
Projects	Students will participate in groups to consolidate their learning as they will produce two reports (one group project and one individual project) by researching presented topics from related printed and online sources.	√	√	

### 4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

*(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)*

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.		Weighting	Remarks
	1	2		
Continuous Assessment: 100%				
Attendance, class participation, group project papers, individual reports	√	√	100%	
Examination: 0%				
			100%	

## 5. Assessment Rubrics

*(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)*

Applicable to students admitted in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Attendance	Show evidence of attending the seminars which focus on the latest developments in a variety of economics and business issues.	High	Significant	Basic	Marginal familiarity with the subject knowledge. Students have demonstrated marginal ability to discover and innovate, and showed marginal evidence of accomplishments of discovery.	Not even reaching marginal levels
2. Individual Reports	Provide in-depth analyses of some of the issues presented in this seminar series.	High	Significant	Basic	Marginal familiarity with the subject knowledge. Students have demonstrated marginal ability to discover and innovate, and showed marginal evidence of accomplishments of discovery.	Not even reaching marginal levels
3. Class Participation	Show evidence of engaging with the seminar speakers and students on the latest developments in a variety of economics and business issues.	High	Significant	Basic	Marginal familiarity with the subject knowledge. Students have demonstrated marginal ability to discover and innovate, and showed	Not even reaching marginal levels

					marginal evidence of accomplishments of discovery.	
4. Group Project Papers	Demonstrate understanding of the content of the seminars which focus on the latest developments in a variety of economics and business issues based on group work.	High	Significant	Basic	Marginal familiarity with the subject knowledge. Students have demonstrated marginal ability to discover and innovate, and showed marginal evidence of accomplishments of discovery.	Not even reaching marginal levels

**Part III Other Information** (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

**1. Keyword Syllabus**

*(An indication of the key topics of the course.)*

Exposure, Awareness, Economic and business issues and problems, Economic concepts, principles, and analysis, Professional seminars, Workshops, Short courses, Public lectures, and Term papers.

**2. Reading List**

**2.1 Compulsory Readings**

*(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)*

To be provided by various speakers.

**2.2 Additional Readings**

*(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)*

To be provided by various speakers.