

Discipline Specific Elective 24 (DSE-24): History of Economic Thought

Semester	Course title & Code	Credits	Duration (per week)			Eligibility Criteria	Prerequisite
			Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
VI/VIII	History of Economic Thought – ECON054	4	3	1	0	Class 12 th Pass	NIL

Learning Objectives

The Learning Objectives of this course are as follows:

- This course intends to acquaint students to an evolution of the history of economic thought from its initial thinkers to ideas of institutionalism and the reinvention of liberalism.
- The course will discuss selected authors on economic theory to understand them within the framework of intellectual debate and change.
- The idea is to expose students to the milestones in economic theory and provide a more holistic understanding of the evolution of contemporary economics.
- The course attempts to fulfil the need to integrate the history of economics with the teaching of the principles of economics.

Learning outcomes

The Learning outcomes of this course are as follows:

- The students will develop an understanding of the historical antecedents and methodological premises of the theories in economics.
- They will also have a grounding in the set of ideas that inform academic debates and the making of policies related to the economy in the contemporary world.

Syllabus

UNIT I: Introduction (9 hours)

Why study economic thought; history of economic thought or histories of economic thought.

UNIT II: The surplus approach and the rise of political economy (9 hours)

Value, Price, Money, Income Distribution, Macroeconomic Setting, Growth and Trade: Reading Adam Smith, David Ricardo and Karl Marx.

UNIT III: Marginalism and Keynesianism (9 hours)

Utility, technology and price : Jevons, Menger, Walras and Marshall. Keynes, Kalecki and the principle of effective demand.

UNIT IV: Institutionalism and Evolutionary Economics (9 hours)

Industrial and Pecuniary employments in Thorstein Veblen; labour as an overhead cost: competition and Knowledge – perfect, imperfect and Rivalrous; Schumpeter: creative destruction, innovation and business cycle.

UNIT V: Neoliberalism and Post-Keynesianism Theory, policy, critique and prospects. Milton Friedman (9

hours)

Recommended readings

- Munday, S. C. (1996). A Brief History of Economic Thought. In Current Developments in Economics (pp. 15-32). Palgrave, London.
- Roncaglia, Alessandro (2017). *A Brief History of Economic Thought*. Cambridge University Press
- Sandelin, B., Trautwein, H. M., & Wundrak, R. (2014). A short history of economic thought. Routledge.
- Medema, S. G., & Samuels, W. J. (2013). The history of economic thought: a reader. Routledge.
- Backhouse, R.E., 1987. A history of modern economic analysis. Basil Blackwell.
- Schumpeter, Joseph A: "The Development of Economics as a Science" in Economic Doctrine and Method. New York, OUP. 1954, Chapter 1, pp 9-44
- Kaul, Nitasha: *Imagining Economics Otherwise, Encounters With Identity/Difference*. First published in 2008, Reprint 2009. Routledge, New Delhi, pp 73-79
- Foley, D. 2009. *Adam's Fallacy: A Guide to Economic Theology*. Cambridge, MA and London, England: Harvard University Press.
- Galbraith, J.K., 1987. A history of economics: The past as the present. London: H. Hamilton.
- Foley, D. 2009. *Adam's Fallacy: A Guide to Economic Theology*. Cambridge, MA and London, England: Harvard University Press.
- Hunt, E.K. and Lautzenheiser, M., 2015. History of economic thought: A critical perspective. Routledge.
- Martins, N.O., 2013. The Cambridge revival of political economy. Routledge.
- Mazzucato, M., 2018. The value of everything: Making and taking in the global economy. Hachette UK.
- Medema, S.G. and Samuels, W.J., 2013. The history of economic thought: a reader. Routledge
- Screpanti, E. and Zamagni, S., 2005. An outline of the history of economic thought. OUP Oxford.
- Temin, P. and Vines, D., 2014. Keynes: useful economics for the world economy. MIT Press.
- Vaggi, G. and Groenewegen, P., 2016. A concise history of economic thought: From mercantilism to monetarism. Springer.
- Gustafsson, B., Knudsen, C. and Uskali, M. eds., 1993. Rationality, institutions and economic methodology. Routledge.
- Veblen, T B: *The Engineers and the Price System*. New York, Augustus M Kelley, 1965. Pp 27-51
- Commons, J R: *Institutional Economics*. AER, Volume 21 1931, pp 648-657
- Clark, J M: *Studies in the Economics of Overhead Costs*. University of Chicago Press, 1923. Pp 357-385
- Stigler: Perfect Competition, "Historically Contemplated", in JPE, vol. 65, Number 1, February 1957, pp 1-17
- Kirzner, I: *Competition Regulation and the Market Process: An Austrian Perspective*. (Link to be provided).
- Friedman, M: "Neo Liberalism and its Prospects", from *The Collected Works of Milton Friedman* pp 89-93
- Chernomas, Robert and Hudson, Ian: *The Profit Doctrine*. Pluto Press. Chapter Title: 'Milton Friedman: The Godfather of the Age of Instability and Inequality.
- Bo Sandelin, Hans-Michael Trautwein, Richard Wundrak *A Short History of Economic Thought*. Routledge. Third Edition. 2014.
- Daron Acemoglu, Francisco A. Gallego, and James A. Robinson *Institutions, Human Capital and Development*. NBER Working Paper No. 19933. February 2014.
- Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, and James Robinson. *Institutions as the Fundamental Cause of Long-Run Growth*. NBER Working Paper No. 10481. May 2004
- Heilbroner, R.L. (1986). *The Worldly Philosophers*. New York, Simon & Schuster.

Note: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.