

ECON 5811 Global Economics and Finance Forum
Course Outline – January 2018

The course is divided into 3 modules:

Module A – Global trade and finance and the Chinese economy

Module B - Special topics in international finance

Module C - Selected topics by guest speakers

Modules A and B will each take roughly half a term (6 weeks). Lectures of Guest speakers (Module C) will be interspersed in the term (see last section on Guest Speakers for schedules). **The examination of Module A is scheduled on February 26 (Monday) from 4.15 to 6.15 pm at CYT LT1. The examination of Module B is scheduled on April 26 (Thursday) from 10.30 am to noon at CYT LT1.** Students will not be examined on contents of Module C.

Teachers:

Module A: Prof. SUNG Yun-Wing (ELB 509, Tel: 3943 8777, Email: ywsung@cuhk.edu.hk)
Office hour: Monday 2.30 to 3.15 pm or by appointment

Module B: Mr. KWOK Kwok Chuen (Email: kwokkwokchuen@hku.hk)
Office hour: by appointment

TA: Mr. FU Chi Lok, Nicholas (ELB 1007, Tel: 3943 3536, Email: nicholasfucl@cuhk.edu.hk)
Office hour: Tuesday 2.30 to 3.15 pm or by appointment

Course notes, readings, and office hours of TA will be posted on Blackboard (<https://elearn.cuhk.edu.hk>). Tutorials are not compulsory and the schedule will be posted on Blackboard.

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academic_honesty/. With each assignment, students will be required to submit a statement that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures.

Assessment:

1. Attendance and participation (see below)
2. Group Poster (25%)
3. Individual professional/industry report (25%)
4. Module A (25%): Two problem sets (5%) and one examination (20%)
5. Module B (25%): One examination (25%)

Requirements

Attendance and Participation

Attendance will be checked through the term. There are a total of 14 classes (including the poster session on April 23. Less than 60% attendance will result in a 5 percentage point reduction in your

score. A bonus of 5 percentage points will be given to students with an attendance rate of 90% or above.

Group Poster

Students should form groups of 5. Students who are not able to form groups on their own will be assigned to groups by our tutor. Students can choose a topic that is relevant to the course. A list of sample topics will be loaded on Blackboard by the end of January. The teachers reserve the right to disallow topics that are not appropriate.

The Poster session is scheduled on April 23 (Monday) from 2.30 pm to 5.15 pm. The Department will provide one board on the ground floor of ELB to each group for mounting a poster. Students should standby during the poster session to explain their projects to viewers.

To prepare the poster, each group should load its poster file on Blackboard on or before April 9. The Department will be responsible for printing the poster. If you miss the deadline, you will be responsible for printing of the poster.

Deadlines

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| 1. Students self-enroll into groups on Blackboard | January 22 |
| 2. Sample topics loaded on Blackboard | January 31 |
| 3. Each group uploads title of poster on Blackboard | February 12 |
| 4. Each group uploads poster file on Blackboard | April 9 |

Individual professional report

A short professional/industry report (no more than 1,200 words) that analyzes some current economic, market, or industry issues (e.g., effect of US Fed interest-hike on the Renminbi exchange rate). Good English is expected. **Bad English or unprofessional presentation will be heavily penalized.** The choice of topic is up to each student (students can ask the teacher for comments). A list of sample topics will be loaded on Blackboard before the end of February. The teacher reserves the right to disallow topics that are not appropriate.

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| 1. Sample topics loaded on Blackboard | February 28 |
| 2. Each student uploads title of report on Blackboard | March 12 |
| 3. Each student uploads report on Blackboard | May 6 |
| 4. Each student submits hardcopy of report and honesty declaration | May 7 |

VeriGuide: Plagiarism detection engine: Each student is required to upload a soft copy of his/her professional report to the VeriGuide for detecting plagiarism (<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/veriguide>).

You will be required to fill in the assignment number (assignment number 1) and due date. You are reminded to carefully complete this information, otherwise your submission may not be recognised. After submission, you should download a submission receipt and declaration form. The declaration should signed by all members of the group and should be stapled with the submission receipt to the hard copy of the paper to be deposited in the assignment box of Professor Sung on the 9th floor of the Esther Lee Building by **5 pm on May 7**.

Late submissions of poster files or professional reports will be downgraded. A zero mark will be given for plagiarism. A zero mark will also be given for papers without a VERIGUIDE receipt and declaration of honesty.

Course description

This course is designed to enhance students' exposure to and understanding of a wide variety of real world economic and financial issues in Hong Kong, Mainland China, and the world to strengthen their ability to analyze policy issues.

Distinguished economists, business leaders, and/or government officials will be invited to deliver lectures on a wide range of leading economic and financial issues in the global economy. Through these lectures, students are trained to strengthen their capability of conducting innovative analyses of these issues with significant policy implications.

Students are required to write research papers for the course. The papers demonstrate students' own analyses and understanding of the course content.

The course is not mathematical but students are assumed to have good knowledge of undergraduate economics. More advanced economic concepts will be explained as they are used. Students who have problems with economic concepts are advised to attend tutorials and/or discuss with the tutor.

Learning outcomes

Students are expected to gain an advanced understanding of some leading issues in the global economy and finance and have a firm grasp of some basic research methodology in economics and finance. Students will receive training in application of economic theory to analyze policy issues. The course aims at improving students' preparation for their career development in business and financial positions as well as further academic studies.

Guest Speakers

Guest lectures will speak on the following dates, from 4.30 pm to 6.15 pm. The teacher will cover all other classes.

1. February 5, 2018 – Mr. Nathan CHOW
Vice President, Economist, DBS Bank (Hong Kong)
“Offshore Renminbi Business and the Internationalization of Renminbi”
2. March 5, 2017 – Mr. Nicholas KWAN
Director of Research, Hong Kong Trade Development Council
“The Guangdong-HK-Macau Big Bay Area and One Belt One Road: Challenges and Opportunities for Hong Kong”