

Economics and Politics of the Netherlands

Study year: 3/4 5000NDP

Course Description: Economics and Politics of the Netherlands

Module area: EM-IBM-I

ECTS: 3

Lecturer(s): t.h.d.nguyen@hva.nl

Language: English

1st Ac.Year: 2011

Study year: 3/4

Examination:

#	Description	Catalog number	Grading Basis	Minimum	Form of Test	Type	Type resit	Period	Duration	Weight
1	Final Exam	5007NDP_T1	D	NVT	Test (written)	Central	Central	S1, S2, S1H, S2H	120	50
2	Research Paper	5007NDP_T2	D	NVT	Test (written)	Decentral	Not	S1, S2, S1H, S2H	0	50

Contents and topics in the module:

The Netherlands is the 16th largest economy in the world. Quite an achievement for such a small country. This module highlights the economic system and achievements as well as the political structure of this trading nation.

Students will benefit from multiple perspectives including geography, history and culture and politics to understand The Dutch position in the global economy and the internal dynamics of the Netherlands. Themes such as immigration, the polder model and the major economic sectors among others will be covered.

This module is mainly targeted on international students. They will find themselves working and living in another country. In this module students are introduced to a comprehensive approach for studying another country and its economic and political structure in order to gain a perspective of both business and working environment.

One of the themes of the module is the idea that the Netherlands is an organized or man-made country. Another key theme will be the influence that water has had on the Dutch economy and society. Besides that, culture and the consensus aspect of decision-making in the Dutch system are worth studying. Current affairs will be taken into consideration while pondering over or discussing international and national issues in the classroom.

The module examines the Netherlands' distinctive role in the world economy and how it has dealt with a number of important issues. First, students will study the economy, culture, history, and political structure of the Netherlands. After an orientation in these areas, students will have the foundation to grasp how the Netherlands is positioned in the global economy. Topics covered will include geography, immigration, gender issues and the environment.

The Polder Model of decision making involves a consensus of employers' organizations, unions, and the government coming together to make agreements on economic policy. This model, also seen to be based on the principle that people who lived within a flood zone had to work together to prevent disaster; though, nowadays, this model has lost its original charm. This shift coincides with a growing recognition of the enormous impact of trends such as globalization and global warming.

Learning goals:

	Learning goals The student can:	Programme's profile competencies	Level
1	To describe the Netherlands' current economy, politics and society.	I1. International Business Awareness.	2-3
2	To identify key characteristics in the Netherlands' social, political and economic development.	I1. International Business Awareness.	2-3
3	To relate to current economic, political and social issues in The Netherlands to its history, culture, and geography.	I1. International Business Awareness.	3
4	To compare the Netherlands' economic, political and social policies with those of other countries.	II.3 International Strategic Vision Development	2-3

Methods of work and study hours:

Teaching methods	Study load in percentage
Lecture	45%
Independent studying	55%
Total	100%

Feedback

Much of the class will consist of discussions to develop and check understanding of reading materials and lecture concepts. Students will receive direct feedback on their comments in class. Students will also receive written feedback on their research paper. After the exam test 1 students are invited to receive feedback regarding the exam in which they had appeared.

Compulsory attendance:

Attending classes is compulsory because it enables one to gain a clear and broader perspective through interaction, debates, discussions and observing other students making their presentations. Students without a valid reason for their absences will be expelled from further participation in this module and have to redo this module in the following semester.

Time allocation: 1. Time allocated per week for contact [classes and or tests]: 2 hours per week. 2. Time allocated per week for self-study, preparation work for presentation and research and studying for the exam: 4.5 hours per week. [3 X 28 hours - 100%]

Class participation, active involvement into discussions and debates helps a student to gain a good grasp of the subject. Besides that it would stand him in good stead in the future. In the light aforementioned, the student is expected to attend all lessons.

Test forms and material covered in each test:

For the research paper, each student will develop and respond to an analytical question that reflects the stated purpose of the module. The report should reflect in-depth knowledge and understanding of the selected topic and include a well-founded analysis. Papers should be written in good, clear, formal English with appropriate citations for external resources.

The written exam will consist of a number of short answer questions and brief essay questions.

Test #	Description	Form of Test	Learning goal #	Material covered
1	Exam (50%)	Written	123	Reader and lecture/discussion topics.
2	Research (50%)Paper	Written	4	