

**ECON 5811 Global Economics and Finance Forum**  
Course Outline – January, 2023

The course is divided into 3 modules:

Module A – Global trade and finance with applications to current issues (7 weeks + exam)

Module B - Research and analysis in a practitioner and policy setting (4 weeks + exam)

Module C - Two selected topics by two guest speakers (2 weeks)

**Class schedule** (Tuesdays 3.30 pm to 6.15 pm at Ho Tim B6 unless otherwise specified)

Module A: Jan 10, Feb 17 (Friday, 6.30 pm to 9.15 pm), 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28.

Exam: April 18 (Tuesday), 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm at YIA LT1.

Module B: Jan 17, 31, Feb 7, 14.

Exam: February 21 (Tuesday), 3.30 pm to 6.15 pm at YIA LT2.

Module C: April 4, 11.

**Instructor:** Prof. SUNG Yun-Wing (ELB 509, Tel: 3943 8777, Email: [ywsung@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:ywsung@cuhk.edu.hk))  
Office hour: by appointment

Assisted by Mr. Tsang Wai-him, William (in Module B) (Email: [williamtsang@wecsl.biz](mailto:williamtsang@wecsl.biz))  
Office hour: by appointment

**TA:** Mr. Chan Yat Ching (ELB 1007. Tel: 3943 3536, Email: [yatchingchan@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:yatchingchan@cuhk.edu.hk))  
Ms. Ann Liang (ELB 1007. Tel: 3943 3536, Email: [yunjingliang@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:yunjingliang@cuhk.edu.hk))  
Office hour: To be announced on Blackboard

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/academichonesty/>. With each assignment, students will be required to submit a statement that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures.

**Assessment:**

1. Class participation (see below)
2. Four problem sets (20%)
3. Module A exam (30%)
4. Module B exam (30%)
5. Individual report (20%)

Students will not be examined on the contents of Module C.

## Requirements

### Class Participation

There are a total of 13 classes (excluding exams), and class participation is mandatory. Attending less than 8 classes will result in a 5 percentage point reduction in score. A bonus of 5 percentage points will be given to students who attended 11 classes or more.

### Individual report

A short 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) is required. Good writing ability is essential. The quality of presentation will be emphasized and graded accordingly. The choice of topic is at the discretion of the student. Students are welcome to discuss it with the instructor. A list of sample topics will be uploaded onto Blackboard in early March. The instructor reserves the right to disallow topics that are not appropriate.

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| 1. Sample topics uploaded onto Blackboard                          | March 7  |
| 2. Each student uploads title of report onto Blackboard            | March 21 |
| 3. Each student uploads report onto Blackboard                     | May 2    |
| 4. Each student submits hardcopy of report and honesty declaration | May 3    |

**VeriGuide (Plagiarism detection engine):** You are required to upload a soft copy of your report to the VeriGuide for plagiarism checking (<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/declaration form. You should sign the form and staple the form to the hard copy of the paper to be deposited in the assignment box of Professor Sung on the 9<sup>th</sup> floor of Esther Lee Building by **5 pm on May 3. Late submissions of poster files or professional reports will be downgraded. A zero mark will be given in case of plagiarism. A zero mark will also be given for papers submitted 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, the Chinese Mainland, and the world so as to strengthen their ability to analyze policy issues.

Eminent practitioners 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 in conducting innovative analyses of these issues.

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

**Although this course is not mathematically demanding, thorough understanding of economics at the graduate level is assumed.** Students who have difficulties with economic concepts are well advised to attend tutorials and/or to seek help from the TA.

## **Learning outcomes**

- Students will gain an advanced understanding of some leading issues in the global economy and finance and have a firm grasp of some basic research tools in economics and finance.
- Students will receive training in the application of economic theory to analyzing policy issues.
- Students will be better equipped for launching careers in business and financial sectors as well as for further studies.

## **Module C: Guest Speakers**

1. April 4, 2023 – Mr. Edward Leung  
Former Chief Economist, Hong Kong Trade Development Council  
“Economic Integration and Emergence of Anti-Globalization”
2. April 11, 2023 – Mr. Tsang Wai-him, William  
Chartered Surveyor (MRICS)  
"Practical cases in research & analysis"