

Contemporary Economic Issues in Central Asia

Course # ECON 4136

Credits 6

Prerequisites: Intermediate Microeconomics, Intermediate Macroeconomics and Econometrics One

Course Description

In this course we explore contemporary economic issues in Central Asia. We introduce students to logic and instruments of analysis of national economies of the region. It starts with historical background of Central Asia and highlights region's transition from planned to a market-based economy. The role of natural resources, migration, and remittances in the context of specific Central Asian republics is discussed in detail. Economic integration in the form of free trade, customs union and other types of regional cooperation is explored as well.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon the completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Understand the nature of centrally planned economic system and its failure in former Soviet Union, particular in the context of all Central Asian republics.
- Assess and analyze costs associated with transition to a market-based economy in the region.
- Explain the role of natural resources in a country's post-communist development and presence of any type of resource curse in Central Asia.
- Discuss the role of international migration from the region and remittances on a country's development for the last two decades.
- Understand key economic challenges and main economic drivers and determinants of the national economies of the six Central Asian countries.
- Analyze regional cooperation projects among Central Asian republics and their possible integration into the world economy.

Course Assessments and Grading

Item	Weight
Participation	20%
Presentations	20%

Midterm exam	30%
Final exam	30%