HUM-471  
**Economic growth and sustainability I**  
Thalmann Philippe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cursus</th>
<th>Sem.</th>
<th>Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Humanities and Social Sciences</td>
<td>MA1</td>
<td>Obl.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Contact language</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session</td>
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<td>Semester</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>During the semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workload</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hours</td>
<td>3 weekly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<td>Project</td>
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<td>Number of positions</td>
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**Remark**

Une seule inscription à un cours SHS+MGT autorisée. En cas d'inscriptions multiples elles seront toutes supprimées sans notification.

**Summary**

This course examines growth from various angles: economic growth, growth in the use of resources, need for growth, limits to growth, sustainable growth, and, if time permits, population growth and growing inequality. Although grounded in economics, it takes up elements from many other discipline.

**Content**

- Economic elements
- Sustainable development
- Economic growth
- Sustainability policy
- Special topics

**Keywords**

Sustainable development, economy, growth, environment

**POLY-perspective**:  
- interdisciplinary perspective  
- global perspective

https://www.epfl.ch/schools/cdh/cdhs-vision/

**Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the course, the student must be able to:

- Critique theories and proposals related to economic growth and sustainable development
- Reason on social and economic issues
- Explain the relationships between economic, demographic and environmental variables
- Compute growth rates and the links between growth rates
- Differentiate between scientific and propaganda arguments
- Restate concepts and mechanisms seen in class

**Transversal skills**
• Plan and carry out activities in a way which makes optimal use of available time and other resources.
• Set objectives and design an action plan to reach those objectives.
• Communicate effectively with professionals from other disciplines.
• Access and evaluate appropriate sources of information.

Teaching methods
Ex cathedra lectures, but active participation is expected. In-depth teaching and educational support.

Assessment methods
Intermediate exam (1/2 of grade) and final exam (1/2 of grade)

Supervision

<table>
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<td>Forum</td>
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Resources

Bibliography
Bartelmus, Peter (2008), Quantitative Economics. How Sustainable Are Our Economies?, Springer

Ressources en bibliothèque
• Économie des ressources naturelles et de l'environnement / Faucheux
• Le développement durable [en ligne] / Strange
• The shock of the Anthropocene / Bonneuil
• Prosperity without growth / Jackson
• L'événement Anthropocène / Bonneuil
• Le développement durable / Strange
• Sustainable development [online] / Strange
• Quantitative eco-nomics / Bartelmus
• Prospérité sans croissance / Jackson
• Sustainable development / Strange

Moodle Link
• https://go.epfl.ch/HUM-471

Videos
• https://tube.switch.ch/channels/Y6fpPybXJd (2021-2022)