

University Entrance Examination Humanities Syllabus

Economics

1) Microeconomics

- A. **Nature and scope of economics:** basic economic problem of scarcity and choice; concept of opportunity cost; production possibility curve; price mechanism and efficient resource allocation.
- B. **Resource allocation in competitive markets:** demand, supply and equilibrium; shifts in demand and supply; price ceilings and price floors; price, income and cross elasticities of demand; price elasticity of supply; application to various markets.
- C. **Production and costs:** profit maximization and other firm objectives; short run and long run cost curves; fixed versus variable costs; diminishing returns; economies and diseconomies of scale; deriving individual and industry supply curves.
- D. **Market structures:** equilibrium of the firm and the industry under (i) perfect competition, (ii) monopolistic competition, (iii) monopoly, and (iv) oligopoly; price discrimination; non-price competition; collusion and mutual dependence with oligopolies.
- E. **Market failures and Government Intervention:** imperfect competition; imperfect information; externalities with diagrammatic analysis; public goods; inequalities in distribution of income and wealth.

2) Macroeconomics and International Economics

- A. **Key macroeconomic indicators and objectives:** National Income Accounting, GDP, GNP, economic growth, inflation rate, unemployment rate; circular flow of expenditures and incomes; comparisons over time and between countries; macroeconomic objectives in relation to inflation, employment and growth.
- B. **Macroeconomic models and policy:** income-expenditure model; AD-AS model; multiplier effect; crowding out; fiscal policy in theory and practice.

- C. **Money and the economy:** functions of money; quantity theory of money; liquidity preference theory of money; relationship between money and inflation; monetary policy in relation to macroeconomic models.
- D. **Trade theory and policy:** comparative advantage; protectionism; global and regional free trade agreements.
- E. **Balance of payments and exchange rates:** broad understanding of the main accounts; currency markets and exchange rates; demand and supply for exchange rate determination; fixed and flexible exchanged rates.

Representative Textbooks

Lieberman, M, and Hall, R. Economics: Principles and Applications 5th international edition, South-Western Cengage Learning, 2012.

O'Sullivan, A, Sheffrin, S, and Perez, S. Economics: Principles and Tools 7th international edition, Pearson Education, 2012.

Mankiw, G. Principles of Economics 5th international edition, South-Western Cengage Learning, 2009.

Parkin, M. Economics 9th global edition, Pearson Education, 2010.

GEOGRAPHY

SECTION A – EAST ASIA/SOUTHEAST ASIA

1 General Overview of the Region

This includes an understanding of the region: identity and personality. Basic knowledge of the geomorphology, biogeography (vegetation and soils) and climate of the region and their relationships to human activities.

2 Urban Geography

The location, function and size of urban settlements; the urbanisation processes and problems involved; rural-urban interaction: processes and consequences.

3 Agricultural Geography

The Green Revolution; Alternative Agriculture; the effects of government planning and policies with regard to agriculture and land tenure systems.

4 Environmental Issues and Management

The location and utilisation of nature resources; environmental degradation (pollution, deforestation, soil erosion, depletion of natural resources) and the solution to these problems.

SECTION B - EUROPE

1 General Overview of the Region

The historical background to European regionalism; the nature, problems and prospects of the European Union. Knowledge of the geomorphology, biogeography (vegetation and soils) and climate and their relationship to human activities.

2 Industry

The growth and location of industries; patterns; problems and policies of industrialisation in the region. The nature, problems and prospects of the tourist industry.

3 Environmental Issues and Management

The location and utilisation of natural resources, environmental degradation (pollution, acid rain, deforestation, soil erosion, depletion of natural resources) and the solutions to these problems.

SECTION C – USA

1 General Overview of the North American Region

Regional geography of North America. Knowledge of the geomorphology, biogeography (vegetation and soils) and climate of North America and their relationships to human activities. The nature, problems and prospects of North American trade.

2 Urban Geography

The location, function and size of urban settlements; the urbanisation processes and problems involved.

3 Agricultural Geography

Mechanisation of agriculture; nature of North American agriculture; problems and prospects.

4 Environmental Issues and Management

The location and utilisation of natural resources, environmental degradation (pollution, acid rain, deforestation, soil erosion, depletion of natural resources) and the solutions to these problems.

Reading List

SECTION A – EAST ASIA/SOUTHEAST ASIA

Chapman, Graham P. and Baker, Kathleen M. (eds.). *The Changing Geography of Asia*. London and New York: Routledge, 1992.

Dwyer, Denis (eds.). *South East Asian Development: Geographical Perspectives*. New York: Wiley, 1990.

Rigg, Jonathan. *Southeast Asia: The Human Landscape of Modernization and Development*. London: Routledge, 1997.

Weightman, Barbara. *Dragons and Tigers: A Geography of South, East and Southeast Asia*. New York: John Wiley, 2001.

SECTION B: EUROPE

Cole, John and Cole, Francis. *The Geography of the European Community*. London & New York: Routledge, 1993.

Berentsen, William H. (ed). *Contemporary Europe: A Geographic Analysis, 7th Edition*. New York: John Wiley, 1997.

SECTION C: NORTH AMERICA

Birdsall, Stephen; Florin, John and Price, Margo. *Regional Landscapes of the United States and Canada, Fifth Edition*. New York: Wiley, 1999.

Tom L. McKnight. *Regional Geography of the United States and Canada*. Englewood Cliffs, N. J.: Prentice Hall, 2001.

HISTORY

GENERAL HISTORY OF ASIA

- 1 European Imperialism in Asia
- 2 Nationalism and the Struggle for Independent Nation-States
- 3 Comparisons of Events and Developments between Larger Societies (eg. China and India)
- 4 Globalisation and Its Influence on Asia

Reading List

Benedict Anderson. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. London: Verso, 1991.

John Beynon and David Dunkerley (eds.). *Globalisation: The Reader*. London: Athlone, 2000.

Bernard Cohn. *Colonialism and Its Forms of Knowledge: The British in India*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1996.

Rhoads Murphey. *A History of Asia* (3rd Edition). New York: Longman, 2000.

Milton Osborne, *Southeast Asia: An Introductory History*. Australia: Allen and Unwin, 2000.

Jonathan D. Spence. *The Search for Modern China*. New York: Norton, 1990.

Burton Stein. *A History of India*. Malden: Blackwell Publishers, 1998. Chapters 5-9.

Conrad Totman. *A History of Japan*. Malden: Blackwell, 2000.

Waters. Malcolm. *Globalization*. London: Routledge, 2001.