

ECON90037 Positive Political Economics

Credit Points:	12.50																		
Level:	9 (Graduate/Postgraduate)																		
Dates & Locations:	2014, Parkville This subject commences in the following study period/s: Semester 2, Parkville - Taught on campus.																		
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: Lectures and tutorials totalling 3 hours per week Total Time Commitment: Not available																		
Prerequisites:	<p>One of the following 2 subjects:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Subject</th> <th>Study Period Commencement:</th> <th>Credit Points:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ECON40001 Advanced Microeconomics</td> <td>Semester 1</td> <td>12.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ECON90002 Microeconomics</td> <td>Semester 1</td> <td>12.50</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Plus one of the following 2 subjects:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Subject</th> <th>Study Period Commencement:</th> <th>Credit Points:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ECON40002 Advanced Macroeconomics</td> <td>Semester 1</td> <td>12.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ECON90003 Macroeconomics</td> <td>Semester 1</td> <td>12.50</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Subject	Study Period Commencement:	Credit Points:	ECON40001 Advanced Microeconomics	Semester 1	12.50	ECON90002 Microeconomics	Semester 1	12.50	Subject	Study Period Commencement:	Credit Points:	ECON40002 Advanced Macroeconomics	Semester 1	12.50	ECON90003 Macroeconomics	Semester 1	12.50
Subject	Study Period Commencement:	Credit Points:																	
ECON40001 Advanced Microeconomics	Semester 1	12.50																	
ECON90002 Microeconomics	Semester 1	12.50																	
Subject	Study Period Commencement:	Credit Points:																	
ECON40002 Advanced Macroeconomics	Semester 1	12.50																	
ECON90003 Macroeconomics	Semester 1	12.50																	
Corequisites:	None																		
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None																		
Non Allowed Subjects:	None																		
Core Participation Requirements:	For the purposes of considering requests for Reasonable Adjustments under the Disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Students Experiencing Academic Disadvantage Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Description, Subject Objectives, Generic Skills and Assessment Requirements for this entry. The University is dedicated to provide support to those with special requirements. Further details on the disability support scheme can be found at the Disability Liaison Unit website: http://www.services.unimelb.edu.au/disability/																		
Coordinator:	Dr Eik Leong Swee																		
Contact:	Email: eswee@unimelb.edu.au (mailto:eswee@unimelb.edu.au)																		
Subject Overview:	This subject provides an overview of the field of political economics. Political economics extends the scope of standard economic analysis by assuming that individuals follow their own agenda and maximize their own utility not only in the economic, but also in the political sphere. The following broad areas will be covered: Determinants of institutional quality and its effect on economic performance; models of political competition and (re-)elections; various (so-called) political and institutional failures, including corruption and rent seeking, and delays in welfare-increasing reforms.																		
Learning Outcomes:	On successful completion of this subject students should be able to: # Reflect on determinants and effects of institutional quality;																		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Explain different models of political competition; # Understand when re-elections can discipline an incumbent government and when they can lead to inefficient policies; # Apply models of political competition to understand observed policies; # Discuss the main causes and effects of corruption; # Apply lobbying and rent seeking models to understand observed policies; # Understand why welfare-increasing reforms are often delayed; # Critically evaluate real-world policies from a political economics perspective.
Assessment:	2-hour end-of-semester examination (70%); and Two assignments of 1500 words each (worth 15% each) due in weeks 6 and 9 (30%).
Prescribed Texts:	You will be advised of prescribed texts by your lecturer.
Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Generic Skills:	<p>On successful completion of this subject, students should have improved the following generic skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Written communication # Problem solving # Interpretation and analysis # Critical thinking # Receptiveness to alternative ideas