A Brief Outline of the Module:

This module seeks to make a meticulous examination of the key aspects of the Singapore economy by adopting a predominantly ‘constructivist’ approach. While some lectures will be delivered to set the tone initially, student presentations on various topical issues followed by critical comments and intensive discussions would constitute the main learning and assessment tool in this module.

Starting with a brief overview of the city-state economy and its pro-growth policies, the module then deals with various issues pertaining to the nature and structure of the economy, domestic as well as international policies that led to Singapore’s success. Topics dealt with in sequence includes institutional support including the role of government in propelling economic growth, population and labor market trends, education and manpower policy, role of savings and investment, international trade and regional cooperation, money and finance, taxation and fiscal matters, income distribution and safety nets, environmental and land use policy, globalization and challenges ahead.

While the problems and issues are brought out in a non-technical fashion, the discussion of relevant policies will be substantiated with appropriate empirical evidences so as to allow the students to gauge the extent of success achieved by various policies. The course relies heavily upon selected articles, reports, and government publications and students are encouraged to do their independent research for making a thorough analysis of the various problems and issues faced in the city-state Republic and suggest ‘new’ policies that are more suitable in the face of changing global environment.

Main Texts


**Assessment in the Module**

- Research Paper/Project- 20%
- Tutorial essay/Class presentation- 10%
- Review/Comment on another essay- 10%
- Overall participation/Research proposal -10%
- Final Examination (Open Book): 50%