

## **Sociology of Economics and Entrepreneurship**

The major purpose of the discipline is to learn how to use sociological approaches to the study of various economic phenomena at macro-, meso- and micro-levels. Students will go from interpreting the behavior of an individual actor who acts in various economic roles (employee, manager, entrepreneur and consumer), to understanding how various economic institutions arise and function. What role do subtle but powerful factors, - such as norms and values, cultural traditions and customs, social networks and ethnic enclaves, - play in economic growth? How to achieve economic growth by breaking the vicious circle of underdevelopment? What factors are most conducive to development - geography, natural resources, modern institutions or learned patterns of behavior? What is a productive economic culture and how to form it? While studying the course, students perform a significant amount of independent research work in small groups. By mastering the content of the discipline, students will have the opportunity to creatively use a variety of theories.

In the process of studying the discipline students will gain knowledge of theoretical, methodological and practical principles of entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurship in Ukraine will be considered in inseparable unity with the processes of formation and development of business activity in European countries. In the classes we will look for answers to many interesting and complex questions related to business development trends that go beyond the purely economic sphere and cover socio-cultural, normative-value, religious-ethical and symbolic aspects. What factors contributed to and hindered the development of entrepreneurship? Why have Protestant countries been more successful in economic growth than Catholics or Orthodox? How is the process of formation and development of European entrepreneurship related to other, non-economic spheres of life - culture, politics, religion, social and ethno-national relations, values and psychological aspects? Which individuals and groups of the population are more prone to entrepreneurship? What is entrepreneurial potential and what does it depend on? What conditions for the successful development of private business initiative are created by the advanced countries of Europe? How are entrepreneurship and innovation related? Why are startups, venture capital and innovative business thriving in the West, and how can we achieve similar results? Can an engineer become a prosperous businessman? How can engineering training be combined with business education? How to develop the qualities necessary for a successful business person? Students will be able to get answers to these and many other controversial and intriguing questions during classes in this discipline.