

Syllabus

Subject

Subject / Group	20600 - Economic Environment / 20
Degree	Double Degree in Business Administration and Tourism - First year Double Degree in Economics and Tourism - First year Degree in Tourism - First year Double Degree in Economics and Tourism (2015) - First year Degree in Business Administration - First year Degree in Economics - First year Double Degree in Business Administration and Law - First year Degree in Law - First year Degree in Geography - First year
Credits	6
Period	1st semester
Language of instruction	English

Professors

Lecturers	Office hours for students					
	Starting time	Finishing time	Day	Start date	End date	Office / Building
Marta Jacob Escauriaza marta.jacob@uib.es	11:00	12:00	Monday	10/09/2018	30/06/2019	DB243-Cita previa por mail

Context

This course is an introduction to the use of principles of economic analysis as a way of understanding actual economic problems. A set of basic concepts of Economic Theory are introduced, and the students are initiated into the methodology of economic analysis. Knowledge and skills acquired will help students to understand market operations and development, public sector interventions, macroeconomic problems and reality, international trade, as well as the effects of macroeconomic policies applied by governments at the international, national or regional level. The final aim is that this methodology becomes a useful tool that the students can apply in their future professional career.

Requirements

We recommend students to have taken Maths courses during senior high school.

Essential

Students must have some mathematical knowledge, specially on derivatives, system of equations, linear equations and graphic analysis (XY graph, time series graph).

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Recommended

We recommend students to have some mathematical knowledge. They should have taken Maths courses during senior High School.

Skills

Specific

- * Ability to provide rationality to the analysis and description of any aspect of economic situation CE3 GECO: Aportar racionalidad al análisis y a la descripción de cualquier aspecto de la realidad económica.; CG3 GEO: Tener la capacidad de reunir e interpretar datos cuantitativos, cualitativos y espaciales relevantes, como para emitir juicios que incluyan una reflexión crítica sobre temas relevantes de índole territorial, social, económico, jurídico, científico o ético. 1 GDRET: Conocimiento del entorno social. Conocer y comprender el entorno social, especialmente sus coordenadas territoriales y económicas. CE6 GTUR: Adquirir una conciencia crítica de la importancia de los procesos económicos, las relaciones empresariales, las políticas de mercado y la evolución económica mundial que influyen ampliamente en los flujos turísticos. CE2.1.6 GADE: Conocer y aplicar diversos instrumentos técnicos de análisis económico para el estudio de la empresa y su entorno. .
- * Ability to identify relevant sources of economic data and information CE8 GECO: Identificar las fuentes de información económica relevante y su contenido. 4 GDRET: Fuentes instrumentales. Obtener información jurídica (Derecho positivo, doctrina, jurisprudencia, fuentes históricas etc.) mediante fuentes instrumentales, incluidas las electrónicas. CE4 GTUR: Ser capaz de conceptualizar patrones, procesos, interacciones y cambios en el mundo turístico entendidos como un sistema dentro de una amplia gama de escalas espaciales. CE2.1 GADE: Analizar una empresa en su entorno usando diversos instrumentos técnicos. .
- * Skills to apply economic methodology and techniques to the analysis of economic data and reality in relation to the firm, consumer, an economic sector or economy. CE11 GECO: Analizar la realidad económica utilizando el marco teórico que se les presenta, siendo conscientes de su potencialidad y de sus limitaciones. CG3 GEO: Tener la capacidad de reunir e interpretar datos cuantitativos, cualitativos y espaciales relevantes, como para emitir juicios que incluyan una reflexión crítica sobre temas relevantes de índole territorial, social, económico, jurídico, científico o ético. CE2.1 GADE: Analizar una empresa en su entorno usando diversos instrumentos técnicos. .

Generic

- * Skills to work in group. CG4 GECO: Comunicarse con fluidez en su entorno y trabajar en equipo. CG1 GADE: Capacidad para trabajar en equipo .
- * Ability to apply the economic method of analysis with critical reasoning and rigor in their future professional career. CG5 GECO: Analizar los problemas con razonamiento crítico, sin prejuicios, con precisión y rigor. CE2 GEO: Adquirir un conocimiento básico y comprensivo de la relación entre los diversos enfoques de la disciplina, incluidos los relacionados con los campos epistemológicos más amplios de las ciencias naturales, las ciencias económicas y jurídicas y las humanidades 1 GDRET: Conocimiento del entorno social. Conocer y comprender el entorno social, especialmente sus coordenadas territoriales y económicas. CE2 GTUR: un conocimiento básico y comprensivo de la relación entre los diversos enfoques que tiene el turismo, incluidos los relacionados con los campos epistemológicos más amplios de las ciencias naturales, las ciencias económicas y jurídicas y las humanidades CE2.4 GADE: Defender las soluciones propuestas de una manera articulada a partir de los conocimientos teóricos y técnicos adquiridos. .

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* Analysis and synthesis capacity. CG7 GECO: Capacidad de síntesis. CE6 GTUR: Adquirir una conciencia crítica de la importancia de los procesos económicos, las relaciones empresariales, las políticas de mercado y la evolución económica mundial que influyen ampliamente en los flujos turísticos. .

Basic

* You may consult the basic competencies students will have to achieve by the end of the degree at the following address: <http://www.uib.eu/study/grau/Basic-Competences-In-Bachelors-Degree-Studies/>

Content

Course programme is divided in four sections. Section 1 introduces basic concepts of Economics, describes main economic problems in Economics as a science and analyses the distinction between Normative vs Positive Economics. Section 2 describes advantages and gains from international trade. Section 3, Microeconomics, describes the principles of market operations, as well as public sector interventions. Finally, section 4 analyses basic topics and problems in Macroeconomics, as well as the aggregate demand and aggregate supply model and fiscal and monetary policies in particular.

Range of topics

1. Introduction
 - 1.1. Economics as a social science and the economic problems
 - 1.2. Definition of Economics: Microeconomics and Macroeconomics
 - 1.3. The origin of economic problems.
 - 1.4. The scientific method.
 - 1.5. Normative Economics versus Positive Economics.
2. Interdependence and the gains from trade
 - 2.1. The fundamental economic problem: scarcity and choice.
 - 2.2. The production possibilities frontier.
 - 2.3. The theory of Comparative Advantage.
 - 2.4. The gains from international trade.
3. Microeconomics
 - 3.1. Principles of market operation
 - 3.1.1. The demand
 - 3.1.2. The supply
 - 3.1.3. Market equilibrium
 - 3.1.4. The concept of elasticity
 - 3.2. The role of the price system: the market mechanism
 - 3.3. Externalities and Public Goods.
 - 3.4. Public sector market interventions: taxes, subsidies, price and quantity controls
 - 3.5. Different market structures.
4. Macroeconomics
 - 4.1. The goals of Macroeconomic Policy. (Main macroeconomic issues).
 - 4.2. Main Macroeconomic Aggregates:
 - 4.2.1. Situation and comparison of the Spanish economy in a European and International context.
 - 4.3. Origins of Macroeconomic Policy.
 - 4.4. Growth and Economic Cycles
 - 4.5. Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply.

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4.6. Fiscal Policy: Public Debt and Public Deficit.

4.7. Monetary Policy: Inter-relationship between the money market and the real market.

Teaching methodology

At the beginning of semester a course calendar will be provided to students through UIBdigital platform. This calendar will include the dates of all the assessments (exercises exam, mid-term exam, deadline for team essay, deadline for report on individual reading and final exam). Please check the Aula Digital for all this information as well.

In-class work activities (1.8 credits, 45 hours)

Modality	Name	Typ. Grp.	Description	Hours
Theory classes	Theoretical Lessons	Large group (G)	To explain the main key concepts of economic analysis that students must know. Class slides and notes will be available for students and basic bibliography must help students to complete and deepen the analysis as they consider.	27
Seminars and workshops	Practical Lessons 2	Medium group (M)	To promote the critical discussion between students and to facilitate the application of theoretical methodology to the economic reality. Several case studies and economic news related with the concepts learned in the lectures will be analysed and discussed.	5
Practical classes	Practical Lessons 1	Medium group (M)	Students must be capable of auto-evaluating their knowledge and acquiring essential abilities and skills. Exercises and problems will be solved individually and in group. The correction of exercises and problem sets will help to improve their knowledge, analysis and synthesis skills as well as their communication skills. The students will solve several exercises individually in October-November (Introduction +Microeconomics), it will account for 20% of the global mark, it is non-retrievable.	10
Assessment	Microeconomics Midterm Exam	Large group (G)	To evaluate the knowledge and skills acquired on Microeconomics and Introduction through multiple choice questions. It is a retrievable exam and it is recoverable in July. It accounts for 30% of the global mark for the course. Minimum mark to obtain in the exam is 3.0.	1.5
Assessment	Final Exam	Large group (G)	To evaluate learning results and skills acquired. It will focus on the Macroeconomics content of the course. It is recoverable and accounts for 30% of the global mark. Minimum mark to obtain in the exam is 3.0.	1.5

At the beginning of the semester a schedule of the subject will be made available to students through the UIBdigital platform. The schedule shall at least include the dates when the continuing assessment tests will be conducted and the hand-in dates for the assignments. In addition, the lecturer shall inform students as to whether the subject work plan will be carried out through the schedule or through another way included in the Aula Digital platform.

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Distance education tasks (4.2 credits, 105 hours)

Modality	Name	Description	Hours
Individual self-study	Report on individual reading (Ha-Joon Chang)	Students will have to read the book <i>Economics: The User's Guide</i> by Ha-Joon Chang and write a small report on it that will be marked and discussed in classroom. It is non-recoverable and accounts for 10% of the global mark for the course.	15
Individual self-study	Readings of papers and essays	To promote the reading of additional economic readings (economic articles and papers) to improve learning results and skills as well as to promote the discussion between students during practical lessons	7
Individual self-study	Study time	Working time of students on their own on the course subject. The student must improve knowledge by reading additional essays and papers	68
Group self-study	Essay on Macroeconomic Aggregates	To learn to work with other students and to discuss economic problems and data with others applying economic method of analysis. To be capable of identifying relevant sources of economic data, of analysing existing data and elaborating new economic data and finally, of communicating the results of this analysis. It is non-recoverable and accounts for 10% of the global mark for the course.	15

Specific risks and protective measures

The learning activities of this course do not entail specific health or safety risks for the students and therefore no special protective measures are needed.

Student learning assessment

Course evaluation will be based on a continuous evaluation process. During course programme students will have to carry out several tasks that will be evaluated and account for 70% of course final qualification. By the end of semester, a final exam will take place and it will account for 30% of final qualification.

In case students fail the course during the programmed semester, they have the possibility of re-evaluation for 60% of tasks and activities during the established extraordinary calendar.

The professor could consider a "Bonus" of up to 0,5 points to take into account special quality of student work, student class participation and attitude and/or student level of involvement in the course.

Those students that have not carried out some of the evaluation activities scheduled, will be able to carry out an equivalent activity on another date to agree with their professor, only when the reason for not carrying them out when scheduled is one of the following: 1). Student has been in hospital during those dates; 2). Death of a relative in first grade and 3). Participation of the student as a trial witness or accused in court celebrated on the same date as evaluation activity scheduled.

All students, including those part-time students, will follow the evaluation pathway contained in the following table:

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Frau en elements d'avaluació

In accordance with article 33 of Academic regulations, "regardless of the disciplinary procedure that may be followed against the offending student, the demonstrably fraudulent performance of any of the evaluation elements included in the teaching guides of the subjects will lead, at the discretion of the teacher, a undervaluation in the qualification that may involve the qualification of "suspense 0" in the annual evaluation of the subject".

Practical Lessons 1

Modality	Practical classes
Technique	Real or simulated task performance tests (non-retrievable)
Description	Students must be capable of auto-evaluating their knowledge and acquiring essential abilities and skills. Exercises and problems will be solved individually and in group. The correction of exercises and problem sets will help to improve their knowledge, analysis and synthesis skills as well as their communication skills. The students will solve several exercises individually in October-November (Introduction+Microeconomics), it will account for 20% of the global mark, it is non-retrievable.
Assessment criteria	Students must hand in a report on short exercises and questions on Microeconomics. It is non-retrievable.

Final grade percentage: 20%

Microeconomics Midterm Exam

Modality	Assessment
Technique	Objective tests (retrievable)
Description	To evaluate the knowledge and skills acquired on Microeconomics and Introduction through multiple choice questions. It is a retrievable exam and it is recoverable in July. It accounts for 30% of the global mark for the course. Minimum mark to obtain in the exam is 3.0.
Assessment criteria	A written exam of multiple choice questions (the incorrect answers discount 0.25 points). It accounts for 30% of the final mark. It is a discharging exam and it is non-recoverable. Minimum mark to be obtained in order to average out with the rest of evaluation activities will be 3. It will focus in Microeconomics and the Introduction.

Final grade percentage: 30%with a minimum grade of 3

Final Exam

Modality	Assessment
Technique	Objective tests (retrievable)
Description	To evaluate learning results and skills acquired. It will focus on the Macroeconomics content of the course. It is recoverable and accounts for 30% of the global mark. Minimum mark to obtain in the exam is 3.0.
Assessment criteria	Final written exam for evaluation of learning results will consist of analytical questions on Macroeconomics only (multiple choice questions; the incorrect answers discount 0.25 points). It will account for a 30% of final qualification and it can be re-evaluated during specified Faculty calendar (July). Minimum mark to be obtained in order to average out with the rest of evaluation activities will be 3.

Final grade percentage: 30%with a minimum grade of 3

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Report on individual reading (Ha-Joon Chang)

Modality	Individual self-study
Technique	Papers and projects (non-retrievable)
Description	Students will have to read the book Economics: The User's Guide by Ha-Joon Chang and write a small report on it that will be marked and discussed in classroom. It is non-recoverable and accounts for 10% of the global mark for the course.
Assessment criteria	It is non-recoverable, and it accounts for 10% of the global mark for the course.
Final grade percentage:	10%

Essay on Macroeconomic Aggregates

Modality	Group self-study
Technique	Papers and projects (non-retrievable)
Description	To learn to work with other students and to discuss economic problems and data with others applying economic method of analysis. To be capable of identifying relevant sources of economic data, of analysing existing data and elaborating new economic data and finally, of communicating the results of this analysis. It is non-recoverable and accounts for 10% of the global mark for the course.
Assessment criteria	Students must hand out an essay report that will account for 10% of final qualification. The quality of the essay presentation will be taken into account and no manual graphs can be included nor the use of non-official statistical sources.
Final grade percentage:	10%

Resources, bibliography and additional documentation

Students must read chapters on Krugman and Wells book recommended during the lectures.

Basic bibliography

- 1 Krugman, P. and Wells R. (2017). Essentials of Economics. (4th Edition). ISBN-13: 978-1464186653. ISBN-10: 1464186650. Worth Publishers
- 2 Ha-Joon Chang (2014). Economics: The User's Guide. A Pelican Introduction. London: Penguin Group. ISBN: 978-0-718-19703-2

Complementary bibliography

Mankiw, N. Gregory (2016). Principles of Economics. 8th edition. Cengage Learning.

Other resources

INE. Instituto Nacional de Estadística. <http://www.ine.es>
EUROSTAT. <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/eurostat/home/>

