

**COURSE DATA****Data Subject**

Code	35918
Name	International macroeconomics
Cycle	Grade
ECTS Credits	6.0
Academic year	2019 - 2020

Study (s)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1314 - Degree in International Business	Faculty of Economics	3	Second term

Subject-matter

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1314 - Degree in International Business	31 - International economic situation	Optional

Coordination

Name	Department
BENAGES CANDAU, EVA MARIA	10 - Economic Analysis

SUMMARY

In today's world most of the countries are very open economies due to the intensive process of globalization. Consequently the macro performance of all countries is very dependent on the behavior of the external sector, namely exports, imports and international capital flows. This is so not only in the long run but also in the short run.

In the long run, economic growth is very much related with international trade and factor mobility and it is one of the main determinants of the degree of development, openness and income distribution.

However, in the short run shocks are transmitted from one country to another generating trade imbalances and currency adjustments and/or currency stress from sharing a common monetary policy. Liquidity problems and bubble processes may also have an origin in the external sector of an economy which lacks financial and banking confidence or an appropriate monetary policy. Some of the financial stress may end up affecting the real economy causing unemployment, excess of capacity and a reduction in the per capita income levels.



An empirical and theoretical look at these questions and at the current situation will be the center of this course. All theories will be presented around real cases and examples, including a specific look at the European case. To this end the course is structured in two parts: the first focuses on the international trade area and the second deals with topics related to the international financial markets.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

Relationship to other subjects of the same degree

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

Other requirements

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

OUTCOMES

1314 - Degree in International Business

- Develop the capacity to evaluate and critically analyse international economic phenomena and agents.
- Understand and reflect on socio-economic and political contexts that affect business and economic decision-making in an international environment.
- Understand the basic concepts of economic analysis that are applicable to the operation of companies and institutions in the international context.
- Understand the behaviour of economic agents and their interaction in global markets.
- Know the basic competences and the functioning of the main international economic and cooperation institutions.
- Know how international financial markets work.
- Develop the capacity to prepare and defend reports that contribute to the decision-making of public and private agents.
- Conocimiento detallado de la situación económica internacional; crecimiento, desequilibrios y retos estructurales por países y áreas geográficas.
- Aprendizaje de los conceptos teóricos básicos para el análisis de la coyuntura económica internacional.
- Aprendizaje de los fundamentos de un análisis de coyuntura económica: rudimentos técnicos, variables de relevancia y problemas de datos y elaboración.
- Estudio de la reciente transformación en los movimientos internacionales de variables macroeconómicas básicas: ahorro, inversión, capital.



- Conocimiento de los factores que han transformado en los últimos años el marco económico internacional.
- Aprehensión de las principales características de las más relevantes economías emergentes en la actualidad.
- Conocimiento general de otras economías emergentes de interés.
- Aprendizaje de las características y la problemática específica de las economías subdesarrolladas.
- Conocimiento de los objetivos, estructura y funcionamiento de las principales instituciones económicas internacionales: globales; financieras y monetarias; de comercio, inversión y turismo; vinculadas al desarrollo; regionales.
- Conocimiento de los principales informes de las instituciones económicas internacionales.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Knowledge of the main theories related to the international trade and the current situation of the flows of international trade of goods and services.

Ability to develop a critical vision of changes in recent years and different policies in the field of international trade.

Basic knowledge of the role, functioning and problems of international financial markets.

Basic knowledge of the main macromagnitudes to perform an analysis of the economic situation of each country.

Ability to understand and interpret the information that different international organizations make available to the public related to the macroeconomic variables.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. What is International Macroeconomics about?

- 1.1 International trade topics
- 1.2 International finance topics

2. World trade: an overview

- 2.1 The Gravity model
- 2.2 New trends in international trade



3. International Trade Policy

- 3.1 Arguments for free trade
- 3.2 Arguments against free trade
- 3.3 Political models of trade policy
- 3.4 International trade policy and the WTO

4. National income and balance of payments

- 4.1 National Accounts: GDP
- 4.2 Other major economic variables
- 4.3 National saving, investment and the current account
- 4.4 Balance of Payments

5. Exchange rates and the foreign exchange market

- 5.1 Exchange rates and international transactions
- 5.2 Foreign exchange market
- 5.3 Demand for foreign currency assets
- 5.4 A model of foreign exchange markets: interest rates, expectations and equilibrium

6. Money, interests rates and exchange rates

- 6.1 Definition of money
- 6.2 The demand for money: individual and aggregate
- 6.3 The money supply and the exchange rate: short- and long-run

7. Adjustment in the long run: exchange rates and prices

- 7.1 The law of one price
- 7.2 The Purchasing Power Parity (PPP)
- 7.3 A long-run exchange rate model based on PPP: the monetary approach
- 7.4 The Fisher effect
- 7.5 Beyond PPP: a general long-run exchange rate model
- 7.6 Real interest rates

8. Adjustment in the short run: output and exchange rates

- 8.1 Determinants of the aggregate demand in the short-run
- 8.2 A short-run model of output markets
- 8.3 A short-run model of asset markets
- 8.4 A short-run model of output and asset markets
- 8.5 Effects of temporary changes in monetary and fiscal policies

**9. International Monetary Systems**

- 9.1 Macroeconomic policies: internal and external balance
- 9.2 Gold standard era
- 9.3 International monetary system during interwar period
- 9.4 Bretton Woods system of fixed exchange rates
- 9.5 Foreign exchange markets since 1973

10. Optimal currency areas: the Euro

- 10.1 The European Union
- 10.2 The European Monetary system
- 10.3 Theory of optimal currency areas

WORKLOAD

ACTIVITY	Hours	% To be attended
Theory classes	30,00	100
Classroom practices	30,00	100
Attendance at events and external activities	3,00	0
Development of group work	12,00	0
Development of individual work	5,00	0
Study and independent work	25,00	0
Readings supplementary material	15,00	0
Preparing lectures	10,00	0
Preparation of practical classes and problem	10,00	0
Resolution of case studies	10,00	0
TOTAL	150,00	

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The methodology for this topic on International Macroeconomics will be oriented to the combination of individual and team work, in theory as well as in discussion sections. More specifically:

- Theory classes will be previously prepared by students combining basic readings with all sort of questions raised while studying each of the topics. The teacher will mix traditional lectures with active participation by students, raising questions and looking for answers. The student will be required to rely on his individual work but also with other colleagues in a team, learning how to argue and debate ideas and how to communicate them in a clear way.



- The discussion sections will reinforce the concepts acquired at the theoretical sessions and from the textbook and will develop the capacity to apply knowledge to the real world. In this respect the students will be asked to carry out two tasks:

1.- Do their assigned homework and hand it in whenever it is asked by the teacher. There will be tasks of data searching information at Websites, press releases and treating statistical data in an appropriate way.

2.- Do an assignment within a team on a subject determined by the teacher. Problem solving capacities, oral and written communication, coordination activities and team work will be developed by the students.

EVALUATION

Theory: International Macroeconomics student evaluation will be based on the grade from the final exam, although the continuous evaluation process will play an important role in order to improve the final qualifications, as the professor will be able to add 1,5 extra points to the score obtained in the written exam.

Total passing grade requires 5 points.

Practice activities: The practical sessions will be evaluated using the research projects that the students must prepare during the course (in pairs). The students must choose a topic related to international economics and prepare a report about it. Then, the students will present their project in class. Students can obtain a maximum of 7 points.

The other 3 points will be obtained thanks to other activities, as comments on selected readings about current international issues, practical exercises, etc. By doing these activities, students will be able to add to their research project's mark 3 points. Total passing grade requires 5 points.

REFERENCES

Additional

- Krugman P., Obstfeld M. & Melitz M., (2018) International Economics. Theory and Policy, 11th edition. Prentice Hall
- Blanchard O., Amighini A., (2013) & Giavazzi F., Macroeconomics a European Perspective, Prentice Hall



ADDENDUM COVID-19

This addendum will only be activated if the health situation requires so and with the prior agreement of the Governing Council

1. Continguts / Contenidos

Se mantiene el temario, si bien van a priorizarse los contenidos hasta el tema 8, pues se consideran de mayor complejidad para que el alumno pueda abordarlos a través de clases no presenciales. Por tanto, las clases y actividades online priorizarán los temas 6, 7 y 8.

El resto de temas (9 y 10) se verán de forma más breve, prescindiendo del contenido para el que no se disponga de suficiente tiempo.

2. Volumen de trabajo y planificación temporal de la docencia

Se reduce el peso de las clases de teoría de 30 a 25 horas, y esas horas se asignan a Elaboración de trabajo en grupo y trabajos individuales. Debido a que se va a aumentar el peso que estos trabajos tienen en la nota final, se les asigna un mayor tiempo.

Las sesiones sincrónicas se programan para que el alumno pueda acceder a ellas en las mismas fechas y horarios que antes, si bien se intenta que estas sean de menor duración. Con el resto de materiales o actividades (trabajos individuales o en grupo, diapositivas, etc.), se da cierta libertad al estudiante para que realice las actividades programadas según sus preferencias.

3. Metodología docente

La metodología docente incorporará nuevas herramientas para adaptarse a las nuevas circunstancias. Las principales herramientas utilizadas son las siguientes:

1. Subida de materiales al aula virtual (en periodo presencial y no presencial)
2. Videoconferencia síncrona BBC para resolver dudas (teoría y práctica)
3. Videoconferencia asíncrona BBC (teoría)
4. Ejercicios resueltos en aula virtual + propuesta ejercicios a realizar individualmente (tareas del aula virtual)
5. Tutorías mediante videoconferencia BBC para los alumnos que lo soliciten, así como atención por correo electrónico.
6. Comunicación vía fórum en área virtual o email

4. Evaluación



Mantenimiento de las notas de evaluación continua obtenidas antes de la entrada en vigor del estado de alarma a partir de trabajos prácticos individuales.

Se incrementa el peso en la nota final de la evaluación continua. Ahora el trabajo en grupo que suponía un 30% de la nota final según la guía docente original, pasa a suponer un 45% y los trabajos individuales, que antes suponían el 20% ahora pasan a suponer el 25% de la nota. El 5% adicional se obtendrá a partir de nuevas actividades a realizar desde la entrada en vigor del estado de alarma. La nota del examen final (será tipo test en aula virtual) supondrá el 30% de la nota final (antes era el 50%).

5. Bibliografía

La bibliografía recomendada se mantiene, si bien los materiales del aula virtual suelen ser suficientes para superar la asignatura.