

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

Code	36782
Name	Introduction economics I
Cycle	Grade
ECTS Credits	6.0
Academic year	2023 - 2024

Study (s)

Degree	Center	Acad. Period year
1933 - Double Degree in Law and Economics_2022	Faculty of Economics	1 First term

Subject-matter

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1933 - Double Degree in Law and Economics_2022	1 - Asignaturas de primer curso	Obligatory

Coordination

Name	Department
LAZARO PARDO, NIEVES	10 - Economic Analysis

SUMMARY

Introductory Economics falls into the subject of economics which, as a foundation subject type, is lectured in the first term of the first year in the degree of Economics. This subject encompasses Introductory Economics I, and Introductory Economics II, the teaching of the former corresponding to the first semester and the latter to the second one. Total ECTS credits of Introductory Economics I are 6 credits. The main aims of this subject are, first, to familiarise the student with the topics that are generally covered by this discipline and, second, to introduce them to the way in which economists think to analyse real world problems and proceed to propose solutions for these problems. The contents of Introductory Economics I are related with and continued in the courses of Microeconomics I (compulsory, 6 ECTS, which is lectured in the second year, first term); Game Theory And Strategic Behaviour (compulsory, 6 ECTS, which is lectured in the second year, first term); Microeconomics (compulsory, 6 ECTS, which is lectured in the second year, second term); Microeconomics, Markets And Contracts (optional, 6 ECTS, fourth year); Industrial Economics (optional, 6 ECTS, fourth year); and Labour Economics (optional, 6 ECTS, fourth year). At the end of this course students should be able to discuss economic issues applying the analytic framework developed in the course, read economic literature and follow current economic debates.



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.

The prerequisites that the student needs to successfully address this subject are minimal: a level of basic maths (solving equations with one / two unknowns and basic partial derivatives); familiarity with the graphical analysis; and web information looking up.

COMPETENCES (RD 1393/2007) // LEARNING OUTCOMES (RD 822/2021)

LEARNING OUTCOMES (RD 1393/2007) // NO CONTENT (RD 822/2021)

The learning outcomes for the Introductory Economics I course are the following:

- To understand and manage the concepts of introductory microeconomics in order to analyze the real world from an economic perspective
- To obtain analytical skills and economic reasoning to set and understand economic problems.
- To understand how prices work in a modern economy and how the different markets determine the prices.
- To evaluate critically the importance of the different economic problems, as well as to value the policies designed to deal with them and the consequences of these policies for society.
- Being able of using bibliography, to get and understand it on the basis of the theoretic acquired knowledge.
- To understand the fundamentals of economic institutions in international environment context.
- To understand and have the capacity of analyzing nowadays issues individually and in teams

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS



1. 1. Basic principles of economics

1.1 Economics of scarcity and the economic approach.

1.2 Basic principles of economics: decisions and opportunity cost; interaction between economic agents; how the economy works as a whole.

1.3 Economic models: the circular-flow diagram and the production possibilities frontier.

1.4 Microeconomics and macroeconomics.

1.5 Positive versus normative analysis.

Basic Bibliography: Economics. Mankiw and Taylor, 4th edition, Ch.1 and pages 379-384.

2. 2. Supply and Demand

2.1 Markets and competition: different markets.

2.2 The demand curve: concept, and shifts in the demand curve vs. movements along the demand curve.

2.3 The supply curve: concept, and shifts in the supply curve vs. movements along the supply curve.

2.4 Supply and demand together: the markets equilibrium.

2.5 Changes in equilibrium.

Basic Bibliography: Economics. Mankiw & Taylor, 4th edition, Ch3

3. 3. Elasticity and its application.

3.1 The price elasticity of demand.

3.2 Total revenue and the price elasticity of demand.

3.3 Other demand elasticities.

3.4 The elasticity of supply.

Basic Bibliography: Economics. Mankiw & Taylor, 4th edition, Ch4.

4. 4. Supply, demand and government policies.

4.1 Controls on prices.

4.2 Taxes on a product.

4.3 Elasticity and tax incidence.

Basic Bibliography: Economics. Mankiw & Taylor, 4th edition, Ch8.

5. 5. Markets and welfare.

5.1 Consumer and producer surplus.

5.2 Market efficiency.

5.3 Deadweight loss of taxation and control prices

Basic Bibliography: Economics. Mankiw & Taylor, 4th edition, Ch.7 and Ch.9.

**6. 6. The economics of the public sector.**

6.1 Positive and negative externalities.

6.2 Public goods and common resources.

6.3 Trade-off between efficiency and equity.

Basic Bibliography: Economics. Mankiw & Taylor, 4th edition, Ch9, Ch.10 and Ch.11.

7. 7. Production and costs (short term)

7.1 Costs considered as opportunity costs.

7.2 The production function: returns to scale.

7.3 From the production function to the total cost curve.

7.4 Short term costs curves.

Basic Bibliography: Economics. Mankiw & Taylor, 4th edition. Ch6

8. 8. Competitive markets and the behaviour of yhe firm

8.1 The meaning of competition.

8.2 Profit maximization and the supply curve competitive firm.

8.3 The supply curve in a competitive market.

8.4 labour market: the competitive firm labour demand.

Basic Bibliography: Economics. Mankiw & Taylor, 4th edition. Ch6

WORKLOAD

ACTIVITY	Hours	% To be attended
Theoretical and practical classes	60,00	100
Study and independent work	50,00	0
Preparation of evaluation activities	10,00	0
Preparing lectures	15,00	0
Preparation of practical classes and problem	15,00	0
TOTAL	150,00	

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The methodology used in the subject Introduction to Economics (I), both in theoretical and practical classes, can be described as follows:

- For the theoretical classes the students will prepare in advance the basic bibliography that serves as a basis for the theoretical explanation. The teacher will explain the main contents of the subject and will solve the doubts that the students may have raised during their previous work or during the development of the class. The teacher will be able to combine his explanations with the active participation of the students. The aim is for the student to develop both their capacity for autonomous work (with the work



prior to the class) and their capacity for oral and written communication (raising their doubts about the subject in public and/or resolving the questions that are raised)

- For the practical classes, students will previously prepare a set of exercises to be worked on in the classroom. Each student will have to prepare them individually and, later, in class they will be explained and solved, solving any doubt that the previous study may have raised. At the end of each of the topics, the teacher may request some additional exercises that will have to be given to him/her on the date established by the teacher.

EVALUATION

El total rating se broken down en los follows:

- El 70% de los puntos de vista corresponden a la final synthesis test, que consiste en las teorías y las prácticas.
- 30% de la marca global corresponden a la continua evaluación de los estudiantes basados en las actividades de desarrollo de him/her durante el curso y de la participación/involución en el teachinglearning process. El final synthesis test es compulsory y pasa y es una condición indispensable para pasar el curso. Cuando el alumno no pasa el final synthesis test, el grade en el oficial recuerdo se obtiene de los resultados obtenidos en el continuo asesso y el final synthesis test sin, en el año caso, exceder 4.5 (failure). En orden a pasar el curso, el mínimo grado de la calculación global debe 5 de 10. el estudiante sólo puede alcanzar puntos de final test (7 puntos máximo) y el/la que necesita obtain a 5 de 7 en el test para pasar el curso en la call. En el call first, el continuo asessment no puede ser recoverable. En el segundo call, hasta el 2/3 del continuo asessment se puede recuperar, que es, al 2 de los 3 puntos (de 10) que el continuo asessment tiene.

REFERENCES

Basic

- Economía, N. Gregory Mankiw y Mark P. Taylor, 2017, 3ª edición. Ed. Paraninfo
- Economics, N. Gregory Mankiw and Mark P. Taylor, 2017, 4th edition, Cengage Learning

Additional

- Economía, Samuelson & Nordhaus, 2010, 19ª edición. Ed. McGraw Hill
- Principios de Economía, Bernanke & Frank, 2007, 3ª edición. Ed. McGraw Hill
- Essential Economic Principles, Schiller, B., 2006, Mc Graw-Hill.
- Economics, Samuelson, P. & Nordhaus, 2004, Mc Graw-Hill, 18th ed.
- Introduction to Positive Economics, Lipsey, R. G. & Chrystal, 2004, Oxford University Press
- Fundamentos de Economía. Krugman-Wells-Grady, 2015, 3ª edición. Ed. Reverté
- <https://core-econ.org/the-economy/book/text/0-3-contents.html>