Principles of Economics

Academic Year: (2021 / 2022) **Review date: 08-12-2021**

Department assigned to the subject: Economics Department

Coordinating teacher: ROMERO MEDINA, ANTONIO

Type: Basic Core ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 1 Semester : 1

Branch of knowledge: Social Sciences and Law

OBJECTIVES

The subject Principles of Economics introduces the student into the rudiments of economic analysis so she (he) can start to think as an economist. To achieve this, a complete overview of the economic system is given. It is explained how individual agents relate to each other (consumers and producers) and how their interactions in the market give rise to economic aggregates at the macro level (production of goods and services, price levels, distribution of income). Emphasis is placed on consumer choice (demand) and producer supply in an institutional framework (laws and governments) conditioning their decisions and facilitating exchange relations.

Skills:

- Identify, organize and analyze relevant economic information in a critic and systematic way.
- Clearly state economic problems assessing their scope and advancing viable solutions.
- Understand the relationship between economy and society in a world strongly influenced by technological progress and climate change.

Attitudes:

- Respect for economic facts as a basis for decision making both in private and public policies.
- Interest in other persons' ideas and willingness to express own opinions with grounds on empirical references.
- Enthusiasm to take advantage from training and entrepreneurship opportunities throughout professional life.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

The syllabus of Principles of Economics aims to introduce the students to the fundamentals of economic analysis, distinguishing between microeconomics and macroeconomics.

1. Introduction. The basic economic problem: scarcity. Microeconomics Vs Macroeconomics. Technology, population and growth.

I. MICROECONOMICS

2. Scarcity, work and choice.
3. Social interaction and inequality.
4. The firm: Owners, managers, and employees.
5. The firm and its customers.
6. Supply and demand: Price-taking and competitive markets.
7. Markets, efficiency, and public policy.
8. The Labour market: Wages, profits, and employment.

II. MACROECONOMICS

9. Banks, money, and the credit market.
10. Economic fluctuation and unemployment
11. Unemployment and fiscal Policy.
12. Inflation, unemployment, and monetary policy.
13. Technological progress, employment, and living standards in the long run.
14. Inequality or Economics of the environment

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

The teaching methodology is based on two types of sessions:

1. Master classes, where the subject is given with graphical support (slides). To facilitate learning the students have access to audiovisual materials and basic texts of reference to complete and deepen the topics explained in class.

2. Practical classes to smaller groups of students, where they can take a more active part in solving the proposed exercises. In these classes student¿s participation and solving of problem sets are graded (continuous assessment). Student participation in class enables them to analyze problems and communicate solutions, encouraging the exchange of opinions.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

The continuous assessment evaluates student participation, solving of problem sets and answering to questions in practical classes and on-line evaluation; it amounts to 40% of the final grade. The remainder of the grade is based on a final exam.
A necessary requirement to pass is a minimum grade of 3 out of 10 in the final exam.

% end-of-term-examination:	60
% of continuous assessment (assigments, laboratory, practicals…):	40

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- -Mankiw, N. G. Principios de Economía, Thomson Paraninfo,, 6th Edition,, Madrid, 2010.
- -Stiglitz J.: Macroeconomía, , Ariel, , 2004
- Paul Krugman, Robin Wells y Kathryn Graddy, Fundamentos de Economía,, Editorial Reverté 2ª edición, , 2012.
- Stiglitz J, and C. E. Walsh: Microeconomía,, Ariel, , 2008.
- https:// www.core-, econ.org/.