

Economics I (Microeconomics)

Curso: 1, Cuatrimester: 1

Syllabus

Workload

The average workload for a student in this course is a total of 150 hours. It is divided as follows.

lectures. There are 14 weeks of lectures 1.5 hours each making for a total of 21 hours

classes. There are 14 weeks of classes 1.5 hours each making for a total of 21 hours

weekly individual work. Students are expected to prepare lectures and classes spending about 5 hours per week making for a total of 70 hours

exam preparation & problem sets. Students are expected to prepare homework assignments and exams using an additional amount of 36 hours

final exam. The final exam takes 2 hours.

Examination

50 % of the grade are determined by continuous evaluation, 50 % of the grade are determined by the final exam.

Quiz. The quiz accounts for 50% of the continuous evaluation (i.e. 25% of the total mark).

The quiz takes place in the small class in week 8.

The quiz contains a multiple choice part and a problem solving part.

Assignments. There are going to be 3 homework assignments. The average grade of the homework assignments accounts for 50% of the continuous evaluation (i.e. 25% of the total mark).

The students have a minimum of 7 days to complete each assignment. Due dates are posted on the aula global page.

Each assignment asks students to apply the material from the lecture and the classes to a recent economic question.

Final Exam. The final exam accounts for 50% of the total mark.

The final exam lasts 2 hours.

The final exam contains a multiple choice part and a problem solving part.

Course Content

The course introduces student's to economic decision making and basic concepts of in microeconomics. The course is based on "The Economy" by the Core Team, Oxford University Press, 2017 (<https://core-econ.org>). The ebook version of the book is freely available. Below I describe the weekly planning. Each week the lecture introduces a concept while the classes go over the problem sets and provide the opportunity for detailed discussions of the concepts obtained in the lecture.

Weekly Planning

Content	Book Chapter	Preparation	Revision
What Economists Really Do Economic Problems Models and Theory Growth over Time	1	Read Chapter 1 Prepare Problem Set 1	all MC questions (Chp. 1) Revise Concepts
Scarcity and Choice Labor and Production Preferences Opportunity Costs Decision Making	3	Read Chapter 3 Prepare Problem Set 2	all MC questions (Chp. 3) Revise Concepts
Game Theory Actions & Strategies Prisoner's Dilemma Altruism	4	Read Chapter 4.1-4.5 Prepare Problem Set 3	all MC questions (Chp. 4.1-4.5) Revise Concepts
Public Goods Free Riding Peer Punishment Lab Experiments	4	Read Chapter 4.6-4.8 Prepare Problem Set 4	all MC questions (Chp. 4.6-4.8) Revise Concepts
<i>hand in first assignment</i>			
Competition & Conflict Actions & Strategies Nash Equilibrium Equilibrium Selection	4	Read Chapter 4.9-4.15 Prepare Problem Set 5	all MC questions (rest pf Chp. 4) Revise concepts
Economic Institutions (Pareto) Efficiency Fairness & Power Feasibility & Allocations Measures of Inequality	5	Read Chapter 5 Prepare Problem Set 6	all MC questions (Chp. 5) Revise Concepts
Theory of the Firm (1) Division of Labor Wages Ownership & Control	6	Read Chapter 6 Prepare Problem Set 7	all MC questions (Chp. 6) Revise Concepts
<i>quiz (during small group classes).</i>			
Theory of the Firm (2) Demand Curves & Elasticities Cost Curves Price Setting & Monopoly Market Failure	7	Read Chapter 7 Prepare Problem Set 8	all MC questions (Chp. 7) Revise Concepts
Markets Supply Curves Marginal Cost & Marginal Utility Market Clearing & Equilibrium Perfect Competition Taxes	8	Read Chapter 8 Prepare Problem Set 9	all MC questions (Chp. 8) Revise Concepts
<i>hand in second assignment</i>			
Market Dynamics Towards an Equilibrium Short-Run & Long-Run Price Control	11	Read Chapter 11 Prepare Problem Set 10	all MC questions (Chp. 11) Revise Concepts
Market Efficiency External Effects Bargaining Public Policies Public Goods Missing Markets Incomplete Contracts	12	Read Chapter 12 Prepare Problem Set 11	all MC questions (Chp. 12) Revise Concepts

Weekly Planning

Content	Book Chapter	Preparation	Revision
Economic Inequality Inequality over Time Should we care? Government Policies	19	Read Chapter 19 Prepare Problem Set 12	all MC questions (Chp. 19) Revise Concepts
Economics of the Environment Climate Change Cost-Benefit Analysis Conflicts of Interest Environmental Policies Tipping Points & Disequilibrium	20	Read Chapter 20 Prepare Problem Set 13	all MC questions (Chp. 20) Revise Concepts
Revision and Recovery <i>hand in third assignment</i>			
