COURSE DATA

DATA SUBJECT

Code: 35920
Name: Emergent and underdeveloped economies
Cycle: Undergraduate Studies
ECTS Credits: 6
Academic year: 2026-27

STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1314 - Degree in International Business	Facultat d'Economia	4	First quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1314 - Degree in International Business	International economic situation	ELECTIVES

COORDINATION

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SUMMARY

The subject *Emerging and underdeveloped countries* aims to analyze some of the most emblematic realities of economic transformation that have taken place recently and constitute an engine of change in international economic relations. During the course it will be studied the cases of countries that were outside the international economic flows during the 20th century, either because they were included as underdeveloped or because they were countries with centralized planning system. Regardless of origin, emerging countries are becoming essential elements of the new international relations and world economic development.

The relevance of the contents of this subject may consist of a strictly economic or global political interest due to the relevance of emerging countries in world economic relations. However, the more practical facet should not be neglected, in the sense that as economic development centers they constitute markets in which Spain can project, both in commercial terms and in terms of investment, while at the same time observing it as a source of obtaining investments, imports or finance.

The subject is broken down into 7 topics. The first introduces the concept of development. The second is dedicated to illustrating the economic strength of the new emerging economies. The third and fourth topics study the cases of Brazil and India, which had traditionally been considered underdeveloped. Topics 5 and 6 deal with the cases of Russia and China whose historical origin is characterized by the possession of centralized planning. Finally, the seventh theme groups the presentation of several countries (South Korea, Vietnam, Mexico and South Africa), with strong economic dynamics, but irregular international projection.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

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

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Previous knowledge of Introduction to Economics and World Economy is required to take the course.

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

1314 - Degree in International Business

Aprender a detectar las desigualdades entre personas para diseñar, implementar y evaluar las políticas pertinentes que faciliten la eliminación de dicha discriminación en empresas e instituciones.

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.

Conocimiento detallado de la situación económica internacional; crecimiento, desequilibrios y retos estructurales por países y áreas geográficas.

Develop the capacity to evaluate and critically analyse international economic phenomena and agents.

Develop the capacity to prepare and defend reports that contribute to the decision-making of public and private agents.

Know how international financial markets work.

Know the basic competences and the functioning of the main international economic and cooperation institutions.

Principales debates en la economía internacional: reto energético; nuevo arbitraje global del trabajo; inflación de bienes e inflación de activos.

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.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

Topic 1. The concept of development

1. The concept of development
2. Measurement of development

3. Underdevelopment

Topic 2. The new global geoeconomic order: emerging economies

1. The BRICS countries
2. The decoupling theory

Topic 3. Brazil

1. Economic reforms
2. Current economic framework
3. Potentialities and obstacles
4. The question of inequality
5. The commercial relations of Brazil

Topic 4. India

1. Economic reforms
2. Current economic framework
3. Potentialities and obstacles
4. The question of inequality
5. The commercial relations of India

Topic 5. Russia

1. From the Soviet economy to the transition
2. The emergence of Russia
3. Internal economic transformations
4. Foreign economic relations

Topic 6. China

1. From centralized to indicative planning
2. Building a market economy
3. Economy vs. politics in China
4. China's foreign economic relations

Topic 7. New emerging countries ?: South Africa, South Korea, Vietnam and Mexico

1. South Africa
2. South Korea
3. Vietnam
4. Mexico

WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Theory	30,00
Classroom practices	30,00
Total hours	**60,00**

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	0,00
Individual or group project	60,00
Independent study and work	15,00
Preparation of lessons	0,00
Preparation for assessment activities	15,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	**90,00**

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The classes for this subject will consist of both a theoretical and a practical component.
Theoretical classes:
These will be based on the teacher's explanations and will be complemented by the reading of selected bibliographic references recommended by the instructor. In addition, students will be required to deliver presentations based on case studies.
Practical classes:
These sessions aim to reinforce and illustrate the content covered in the theoretical classes. Consequently, their thematic structure will mirror that of the theoretical component, following the outline of the course programme. However, the methodology will differ significantly. Practical sessions will make extensive use of audiovisual materials and supplementary readings, which will serve as a basis for guided discussions and critical debate.

EVALUATION

The evaluation of the subject *Emerging and underdeveloped economies* will be carried out through the assessment of the students' knowledge that will be implemented on the one hand, through an exam at the end of the course and, on the other hand, by monitoring of the tasks carried out by the student during the course (participation in debates, online questionnaires, and a case study).

The exam will account for 70% of the final grade, while continuous assessment will represent the remaining 30%. However, the latter will only be taken into consideration if the written exam is passed.

Artificial Intelligence Use Policy Statement: Students on the course are urged that if they use artificial intelligence (AI) tools for information analysis and research, they do so in a responsible manner, maintaining academic integrity and complying with ethical and legal standards. Academic fraud will be understood as any premeditated behaviour aimed at falsifying the results of an exam or work, whether one's own or someone else's (including the improper use of AI as ChatGPT), carried out as a requirement for passing a subject or accrediting academic performance (article 11.g of Law 3/2022, of 24 February, on university coexistence).

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