

**COURSE DATA****DATA SUBJECT**

Code: 35937
Name: Spanish and international economics
Cycle: Undergraduate Studies
ECTS Credits: 6
Academic year: 2026-27

STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1315 - Degree in Finance and Accounting	Facultat d'Economia	2	Second quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1315 - Degree in Finance and Accounting	Economic environment	COMPULSORY

COORDINATION

BELTRAN ESTEVE M MERCEDES

SUMMARY

Spanish and International Economics is a compulsory subject lectured in the second term of the second year of the Degree in Finance and Accounting.

The **objective** of the course is to make students aware of the Spanish and international economic reality and to provide them with an analytical instrument that enables them to study the economic environment that surrounds him (Spanish and global) through the management of the main sources of statistics information and the most commonly used economic indicators.

The content of the subject is structured in two major **thematic blocks**.



- The first, which includes the first five topics, deals with the study of **international trade** by analysing both its commercial and financial aspects. This first part of the course begins with the analysis of the main features of international trade. Secondly, an analytical framework is offered that highlights the origins of international trade and the advantages derived from free trade between countries. Next, the main instruments of trade policy and the role of the main international organisations are analysed. Finally, the functioning of exchange markets and the main explanatory theories of the determination of the exchange rate are discussed.
- The second thematic block focuses on the **Spanish economy** and is divided into four themes. In this part of the subject several aspects that are central to understanding the evolution, the situation and the functioning of the Spanish economy are analysed, such as: the determinants of its growth, the changes that occurred in its productive structure, the structure of its public sector, the features of its foreign trade or the features of its labor market.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

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

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

No enrolment restrictions have been specified with other subjects of the curriculum.

Introduction to economy

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

1315 - Degree in Finance and Accounting

Conocer y comprender las distintas políticas económicas instrumentales, sectoriales y estructurales así como su proceso de elaboración.

Conocimiento del entorno económico español, europeo e internacional, los sectores productivos y el funcionamiento de las instituciones.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. The importance of international economics

Introduction.

Globalization. The largest economies in the world: statistical data

Main features of international trade

Practical exercises lesson 1:



Concept and analysis of the structure of the Balance of Payments. Calculation and interpretation of the balances of the different sub-balances.

Study of the structure and evolution of the balance of payments of the Spanish economy (virtual classroom and <http://www.bde.es>).

2. Comparative advantage and trade

Labor productivity and comparative advantage: Ricardo's model.

Provision of factors and trade: The Heckscher-Ohlin model.

Practical exercises lesson 2: Numerical exercises on comparative advantage and trade (virtual classroom).

3. Scale economies and international trade

Scale economies and commerce.

Scale economies and market structure.

Monopolistic competition and trade.

External economies and international trade.

Practical exercises lesson 3: Evaluation of the relative importance of scale economies in commerce and numerical exercises (virtual classroom).

4. Commercial policy

The basic analysis of the tariff.

Other trade policy instruments: export subsidies, quotas and voluntary export restrictions.

The gravity equation of international trade.

Multilateral trade negotiations: GATT and WTO.

Regional trade agreements and their effects.

Practical exercises lesson 4: Exercises on the basic analysis of the tariff and cases of study (virtual classroom).

5. Exchange rates and the currency market

Exchange rates and international transactions.

Exchange rates and the currency market. An asset approach.

Exchange rates and the currency market. An asset approach.

Practical exercises lesson 5: Numerical exercises on the exchange rate, the parity of interests and the Purchasing power parity (virtual classroom).

6. Economic growth and structural change

Spanish economic growth and its sources.

The determinants of productivity growth.

Structural transformations.

Practical exercises lesson 6: Basic concepts and indicators; determinants of economic growth; public sector; income distribution (virtual classroom).

7. Public sector, foreign sector and income distribution



Public sector

Main features of Spanish foreign trade

Income distribution

8. The productive sectors

Long-term trends and their determinants.

Productive Specialization and Trade

Efficiency: a comparison

Sectoral Policies

Practical exercises lesson 8: Readings and exercises on productive sectors (virtual classroom).

9. The labour market

Evolution and basic features of the Spanish labour market.

Factors explaining wage rigidity: shocks and institutions

Labor market policy

Practical exercises lesson 9: Readings and exercises on Spanish labour market (virtual classroom).

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	0,00
Independent study and work	62,50
Preparation of lessons	0,00
Preparation for assessment activities	0,00
Resolution of case studies	27,50
Total hours	90,00

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The teaching methodology will be based on a combination of face-to face and non-face-to-face activities.

The practical component of the course is structured around two main instruments: active participation in



the practical classes and individual student work through assigned practical exercises.

In addition, students will be guided toward searching for statistical sources and working documents on the Internet and using bibliographic resources.

EVALUATION

The course will be assessed according to the following procedure:

- A **written exam**, with theoretical and theoretical-practical questions, will account for **80% of the final grade**.
- **Continuous assessment**, based on student participation and involvement in the teaching-learning process and various tests evaluating the knowledge acquired throughout the course, will account for **20% of the final grade**. Continuous assessment **is non-recoverable**; the continuous assessment grade will be kept in the second exam call.
- To pass the course, **it will be necessary to obtain a minimum score of 4 out of 10 on the final exam**.

REFERENCES

- Krugman, P.K., Obstfeld, M. y Melitz, M. (2015): *International Economics: Theory and Policy*, 10th Edition. Pearson.
- García Delgado, J.L.; Myro, R. (2025): *Economía Española. Una introducción*, 8th Edition. Cívitas.
- Course Readings (virtual classroom)