

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

Code: 36104
Name: Introduction economics II
Cycle: Undergraduate Studies
ECTS Credits: 6
Academic year: 2026-27

STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1316 - Degree in Economics	Facultat d'Economia	1	Second quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1316 - Degree in Economics	Economics	BASIC

COORDINATION

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SUMMARY

This subject forms part of the subject Economics together with the subject Introduction to Economics (I) taught in the first semester. The teaching load of this subject is 6 ECTS credits.

The subject Introduction to Economics (II) is directly related to the subjects of the subject Macroeconomics: Macroeconomics I (Compulsory, 6 ECTS) second year, first semester; Macroeconomics II (Compulsory, 6 ECTS) second year, second semester; Dynamic Macroeconomics (Compulsory, 6 ECTS) third year, first semester; International Macroeconomics (Optional, 6 ECTS) fourth year; Monetary and Banking Economics (Optional, 6 ECTS) fourth year. It is also closely related to the subjects of Microeconomics.

This subject aims to introduce students to the principles of economic analysis, introducing the macroeconomic knowledge necessary to analyse and interpret the national and international reality from an economic perspective. This subject will allow the student to understand the set of interactions that take place between the different agents of an economic system, to analyse current and relevant issues, and to understand the effects of public intervention in the economic reality

The basic contents of this subject are the following: basic macroeconomic concepts; aggregate supply: production and growth; aggregate demand: consumption, investment, public spending and net exports; the



monetary system.

The general objective of this course is for the student to learn the keys to the functioning of the market economy and to understand the functioning of the economy at an aggregate level and the effect that different economic policies have on it. The student will be introduced to the knowledge and understanding of the determinants of the long-term sustainable growth of an economy, as well as the effects of stabilisation policies.

The aim is to familiarise students with the economists' way of thinking about reality, using the terminology and methodology of economic analysis.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

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

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Relationship to other subjects of the same degree

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

Other requirements

The previous knowledge that corresponds to the first and second year of the baccalaureate in the branch of humanities and social sciences is assumed. Specifically, in order to successfully tackle this subject, students should have a basic level of mathematics (solving equations with one/two unknowns and basic partial derivatives) as well as a minimum familiarity with graphical analysis and with consulting information on the Internet.

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

1316 - Degree in Economics

Apply the principles of economic analysis (rational decision) to the diagnosis and resolution of problems.

Be able to learn autonomously.

Be able to use English in a professional environment.

Have appropriate knowledge of the determinants of aggregate consumption, savings and investment.

Have decision-making skills and be able to apply knowledge to practice.



Know and understand the determinants of the long-term sustainable growth of an economy.

Know and understand the functioning of labour markets and the determinants of unemployment and wages.

Know and understand the nature of international trade and of the financial framework in which it takes place.

Know the basic concepts of financial analysis and the operation of financial markets.

Know the economic measures to reduce income inequality and poverty.

Show critical thinking skills.

Understand and apply the scientific method, which involves formulating hypotheses, deducing verifiable results and contrasting them with empirical and experimental evidence.

Understand the functioning of the economy at the aggregate level and the effect of different economic policies.

Understand the possible causes of economic cycles and the effects of stabilisation policies.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. Measuring the Economy: Output

1.1. Macroeconomics versus Microeconomics

1.2. Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

1.3. Nominal and Real GDP

1.4. Output, Expenditure and Income approaches to measure GDP

1.5. Why do we measure GDP?

2. Measuring the Economy: Prices, employment and unemployment

2.1. The Consumer Price Index

2.2. The inflation rate

2.3. The GDP Deflator as a Price index



2.4. Correcting economic variables for the effects of Inflation

2.5. Labour force, employment and unemployment

3. Production and growth

3.1. Short run, long run and very long run

3.2. The aggregate production function

3.3. Productivity and its determinants

3.4. Economic growth

4. Savings, Investment and the financial system in the long run

4.1. Savings and investment in the national accounts

4.2. Financial institutions

4.3. The market for loanable funds

4.4. Nominal versus real interest rate

5. Money and prices in the long run

5.1. The meaning of money

5.2. The role of Central Bank

5.3. Banks and money supply

5.4. Money and inflation

5.5. The costs of inflation

6. Open Economies in the long run

6.1. The international flows of goods and capital



- 6.2. Nominal and real exchange rate
- 6.3. Open economy equilibrium
- 6.4. The effects of Policies in an open economy
- 6.5. The theory of Purchasing Power Parity

7. Short run economic fluctuations: Aggregate Supply and Aggregate Demand

- 7.1. Facts about economic fluctuations
- 7.2. The Aggregate Demand Curve
- 7.3. The Aggregate Supply curve
- 7.4. The causes of economic fluctuations

8. Fiscal and Monetary Policy in the short run

- 8.1. Monetary Policy
- 8.2. Fiscal Policy
- 8.3. Using policy to Stabilize the economy

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	5,00
Independent study and work	52,00
Preparation of lessons	30,00
Preparation for assessment activities	0,00



Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	87,00

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The teaching methodology of the subject Introduction to Economics II, both in theoretical and practical classes, will be oriented towards fostering work capacity. More precisely, this methodology can be described as follows:

- For theory classes, students must prepare, in advance, the basic bibliography of the subject corresponding to the class. Based on the reading of this bibliography, they will prepare a series of questions that gather their main doubts. These questions will be posed to the teacher and the rest of the classmates, within the class, so that they can be resolved, if they still have any during the class. In this way, the class will be able to combine the teacher's explanations with the active participation of the students (for example, raising the resolution of the students' doubts throughout the class, resolution of questions posed by the teacher, group discussion of the aspects that have generated most interest, etc.). The aim is for students to develop their capacity for autonomous work (with work prior to the class), as well as their ability to work in teams, argue and defend ideas (group debates) and their capacity for oral and written communication (raising their doubts about the subject in public and/or resolving the questions raised in writing).
- For the practical classes, students will prepare in advance exercises and practical cases related to the subjects, which may be worked on in the classroom, with the possibility of solving some exercises on the blackboard. The aim is for students to develop their ability to organise forms of work (individually or in groups), to solve problems related to the content of the subject, to communicate orally or in writing, to coordinate different activities, and to distinguish, among all the information available, which information is reliable, and which is not. The tasks set may lead to deliverables that can be assessed by the teacher.

EVALUATION

The course Introduction to Economics (II) will be assessed on the basis of the consideration, in this order of relevance, of the following aspects:

- Written exam at the end of the course consisting of theoretical and practical questions.
- Assessment of the practical activities carried out by the student during the course, based on the preparation of assignments, oral presentations and problem solving.
- Evaluation of the student's participation and involvement in the teaching-learning process.

In the subject Introduction to Economics (II), the total assessment is broken down as follows: 30% of the overall mark corresponds to the continuous assessment based on the different activities carried out throughout the course and the student's active participation, and 70% of the overall mark corresponds to the final synthesis test. The continuous assessment activities are not recoverable.



The final synthesis test is compulsory and passing it (obtaining 3.5 out of 7 points in the final synthesis test) is an essential condition for passing the subject. The course will be considered passed if the student obtains 5 points out of 10, for which he/she can combine continuous assessment and the final synthesis test. If the student chooses not to do the continuous assessment tasks, he/she will only be able to obtain the points of the final exam (7 maximum) and would need to obtain a 5 out of 7 in the final exam in order to pass the subject.

In case of not passing the final exam, the grade in the minutes will be obtained from the score obtained in the continuous assessment and the final synthesis exam, without exceeding 4.5.

REFERENCES

- N. Gregory Mankiw and Mark P. Taylor (2017): Economía, 3ª edition. Editorial Paraninfo.
- Macroeconomía, Mankiw, N.G, 2020, 10ª edition, Ed. Antoni Bosch.
- Principios de Economía, Bernanke and Frank, 2007, 3ª edition. Ed. McGraw Hill.
- Macroeconomía, O. Blanchard, A. Amighini and F. Giavazzi, 2012, 5ª edition, Ed. Pearson.
- Economía: Teoría y Práctica, Blanco, J.M., 2014, 6ª edition, McGraw Hill.
- Principios de Economía, Mankiw, 2018, 7ª edition. Ed. Cengage Learning.
- <https://core-econ.org/the-economy/book/text/0-3-contents.html>