

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2501573 Economics	OT	4	0

Contact

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Use of languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)

Some groups entirely in English: Yes

Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes

Some groups entirely in Spanish: Yes

Teachers

Ferran Brunet Cid

Prerequisites

The resulting knowledge of having completed the course "Introduction to Economics", "International Economics" and "economic integration", ie, understanding the basics of the economy and the knowledge of the general evolution of the world economy and international relations.

Objectives and Contextualisation

The course attempts to analyze the economics and politics of the European Union.

The objectives of the course are:

- Understand the fundamentals of the European integration process.
- Understand the forms and dynamics of the institutional system of the European Union.
- Analyze competition, trade, monetary, agricultural, domestic, regional and social UE policies.
- Understand the characteristics, capabilities, limitations and challenges of the European economy.
- Analyze the integration of the single market in a context of globalization, convergence between Member States and with the United States, and strategies for stabilization and structural reforms.
- Understand the relationship between intensification policies and EU enlargement, and between competitiveness and solidarity in Europe.
- Manage community sources.

Skills

- Capacity for adapting to changing environments.
- Capacity for independent learning in the future, gaining more profound knowledge of previous areas or learning new topics.
- Demonstrate initiative and work individually when the situation requires it.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the structure of institutions and the state, their evolution and the consequences of possible changes, to be able to make a positive contribution to the debate about the role they play in current society.

- Know how to handle the analytical framework and empirical knowledge that is offered by the economy on international relations and the most important economic areas.
- Organise the work in terms of good time management, organisation and planning.
- Select and generate the information necessary for each problem, analyse it and take decisions based on that information.
- Show motivation for carrying out quality work and sensitivity to the consequences for the environment and society.
- Value ethical commitment in professional practice.
- Work well in a team, being able to argue proposals and validate or reject the arguments of others in a reasoned manner.

Learning outcomes

1. A capacity of oral and written communication in Catalan, Spanish and English, which allows them to summarise and present the work conducted both orally and in writing.
2. Analyse the role of international institutions in the economy.
3. Assess ethical commitment in professional activity.
4. Assess the functioning and current situation of the Spanish economy.
5. Capacity to adapt to changing environments.
6. Capacity to continue future learning independently, acquiring further knowledge and exploring new areas of knowledge.
7. Demonstrate initiative and work independently when required.
8. Demonstrate motivation regarding the quality of the work performed and sensitivity regarding the consequences on the environment and society.
9. Examine the influence and the role of Spanish public institutions in the economy.
10. Interpret the economic globalisation process and its consequences for the Spanish economy.
11. Organise work, in terms of good time management and organisation and planning.
12. Perform an economic analysis of integration processes, in general, and of the European integration process, in particular.
13. Select and generate the information needed for each problem, analyse it and make decisions based on this information.
14. Work as part of a team and be able to argue own proposals and validate or refuse the arguments of others in a reasonable manner.

Content

1. Elements of European integration
2. European economy: structure and dynamics
3. Dynamics of the European Communities
4. The system of the European Union
5. Economic freedoms and basic policies of the Union
6. EMU
7. Trade policy
8. Competition Policy
9. Internal policies
10. Common Agricultural Policy
11. Regional policy and cohesion

- 12. European social policy
- 13. Elements of European economic policy
- 14. EU vs. USA
- 15. Europe in crisis

Conclusion: dynamics of European integration

Methodology

Lectures (directed activity)

Class hours: 30 hours

Classes with ICT support. As the teacher lectures to explain the concepts, problems and theoretical approaches of each of the sections of the program.

The instructor will provide guidance on the bibliographic material available and to consolidate and expand skills.

Activities proposed by Professor

Class hours: 15 hours

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures	30	1.2	2, 12, 4, 9, 10
Practices	15	0.6	5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 13
Type: Supervised			
Teamwork	18	0.72	1, 11, 13, 14
Tutorials	4	0.16	5, 1, 6, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14, 3
Type: Autonomous			
Read and study the material	80	3.2	2, 12, 4, 1, 6, 9, 7, 10, 8, 11, 13, 14, 3

Evaluation

Continuous evaluation consisting of

- two comprehensive exams (60% of the assessment),
- writing essays (30 % of the assessment) and
- presentations (10% of the assessment).

The minimum overall grade to pass the course is 5. This grade is the weighted average of the scores of the all the activities proposed during the course

If the final overall grade is less than 4, the student must repeat the whole course the next year.

Students whose final overall grade is between 4 and 5 are admitted to a re-evaluation exam. This exam is organized about one week after the final exam at the end of the semester. The re-evaluation exam grants at most 1 point. If a student passes the re-evaluation exam, her/his overall final grade will be 5.

A student is considered as "Not evaluable" for the final overall grade, whenever he/she did not participate to any evaluation activity. Therefore, a student participating to one or more single activities will be graded in accordance to the results of those activities even if he/she does not show up at the final exam.

Evaluation activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Final Exam	100%	3	0.12	2, 12, 4, 5, 1, 6, 9, 7, 10, 8, 11, 13, 14, 3

Bibliography

- European Commission. DG Economic and Financial Affairs (2014): The EU Economy: 2014 Review, Luxembourg, OPOCE <http://europa.eu.int/comm/economy_finance/publications>.
- European Commission - Secretariat-General (2014): General Report on the Activities of the European Union 2013, Luxembourg, OPOCE. <<http://europa.eu.int/abc/doc/off/rg/en/welcome.htm>> European Parliament - DG for Research (2014): Fact Sheets, Luxembourg, OPOCE <http://www.europarl.eu.int/factsheets/default_en.htm>.
- Wallace, Helen, Mark A. Pollack, and Alasdair R. Young (2010): Policy-Making in the European Union, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 6th ed.
- Brunet, Ferran (2010): Curso de Integración Europea, Madrid, Alianza Editorial, 2nd ed.