

Sectoral Economics

Code: 102302
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2501572 Business Administration and Management	OT	4	0
2501573 Economics	OB	3	2

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: No

Teachers

Angel Herмосilla Pérez
Javier Asensio Ruiz de Alda
Miguel Àngel García López
Francisco Navarro Galvez

Prerequisites

None.

Objectives and Contextualisation

This is a third-year (second semester) subject, compulsory for students in the grade of Economics (ECO), optional for those in Business Administration (ADE).

The topics cover the different sectors of economic activity and the drivers of their evolution, taking as main object of analysis the productive structure of the Spanish economy and putting it into the context of international trends that affect the behaviour of firms and industries. The subject thus provides students with applied tools to study competitiveness in a microeconomic sense and the main regulatory policies that have an influence on certain sectors.

The aims of the subject can be summarised as follows:

1. To apply theoretical knowledge of microeconomics and business economics.
2. To learn to use analytical and computational techniques to case studies.
3. To foster the interest towards professional economists' practice and business' and organizations' management.

4. To develop the ability to communicate acquired knowledge in writing and orally, both individually and as a group.

Skills

Business Administration and Management

- Capacity for adapting to changing environments.
- Capacity for independent learning in the future, gaining more profound knowledge of previous areas or learning new topics.
- Capacity for oral and written communication in Catalan, Spanish and English, which enables synthesis and oral and written presentation of the work carried out.
- 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. Assess ethical commitment in professional activity.
3. Assess the functioning of industrial policy and its effects on the Spanish economy.
4. Capacity to adapt to changing environments.
5. Capacity to continue future learning independently, acquiring further knowledge and exploring new areas of knowledge.
6. Compare the patterns of development of the Spanish economy over the past two decades, its institutional framework and the evolution of its markets.
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. Identify the fundamentals of competitive advantages in different sectors of the economy.
10. Identify the main institutions linked to the financial world, in Spain and at an international level.
11. Organise work, in terms of good time management and organisation and planning.
12. Select and generate the information needed for each problem, analyse it and make decisions based on this information.
13. Suggest productive restructuring processes.
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. Competitiveness: concept, indicators, drivers.
2. Manufacturing activities from a historical perspective: globalisation, structural changes.

3. Manufacture outsourcing, innovation, technological change, human capital.
4. Labour costs and productivity.
5. Industrial policy.
6. Energy. Electricity and its regulation.
7. Services.
8. Services productivity. Liberalisation of tertiary activities.
9. Financial system. Innovation and efficiency of financial markets.
10. Banking activities. Internationalisation and concentration. Financial regulation.
11. Transport and infrastructure.
12. Telecommunications.
13. Tourism.
14. Retailing
15. Agriculture and the Common Agricultural Policy

Methodology

The course is based on three types of activities:

Lectures

Case studies and problem sets

Autonomous work

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Type: Directed			
Case studies and problems	15	0.6	3, 4, 1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 8, 11, 13, 12, 14
Lectures	30	1.2	3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 8, 13, 12, 2
Type: Supervised			
Classes	2	0.08	5, 7, 8, 12, 2
Practice on current issues	4	0.16	3, 4, 1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 8, 11, 13, 12, 14, 2
Type: Autonomous			
Study	93	3.72	4, 1, 5, 7, 10, 11, 12

Evaluation

The course will be marked as follows:

1. Two written exams: 75%
2. Practice on current issues: 10%
3. Recommended activities, class assistance, participation: 15%

In order to pass, it is necessary to obtain an average mark from the exams higher than 3.8 and a course mark above 5. A retake exam will be offered to students with a mark above 3.8.

Evaluation activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Class assistance and participation	15	1	0.04	4, 1, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 2
Practice on current issues	10	2	0.08	3, 4, 1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 8, 11, 13, 12, 14, 2
Two written exams	75	3	0.12	3, 1, 6, 7, 9, 10, 8, 11, 13, 12

Bibliography

Banco de España (2015), The analysis of the Spanish Economy. Available at:

http://www.bde.es/f/webbde/SES/Secciones/Publicaciones/OtrasPublicaciones/Fich/analysis_spanish_econom

Mas, M and R. Stehrer (eds.) Industrial Productivity in Europe. Growth and Crisis, Edward Elgar, 2012.
Motta, M. Competition Policy. Theory and Practice, Cambridge University Press, 2004