

Degree programme	Type	Course
Political Science and Public Management	OP	3
Political Science and Public Management	OP	4

Contact lecturer

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Teaching staff

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Group languages

You can consult this information at the [end](#) of the document.

Prerequisites

It is recommended to have basic knowledge from the subject "Introduction to Economics"

Objectives

This is an elective course, taught during the second semester of the third or four year

The syllabus presents a comprehensive analysis of the Spanish economy from five different perspectives: the development of the Spanish economy over the last 30 years, the public sector, the labour market, the productive structure and the financial system.

The analysis from a gender perspective will be included in the relevant topics of the programme.

The objectives of the course are the following:

1. Increase the students' interest for the study of the economy.
2. Increase the students' knowledge of the general functioning of the economy, its different markets, and its economic institutions.
3. Application of the economic analysis to specific realities.
4. Achievement of a better empirical comprehension of economic dilemmas.
5. Uncover the social dimension of the economy and its relationship with welfare.

6. Stimulate students express their progress in written work, oral communication, and the identification and processing of the relevant information related to the course.

Learning outcomes

1. Working in teams and networking, particularly in interdisciplinary conditions.
2. Identifying sources of data and conducting bibliographic and documentary searches.
3. Synthesizing and critically analysing information.
4. Arguing from different theoretical perspectives.
5. Demonstrating good writing skills in different contexts.
6. Showing a good capacity for transmitting information, distinguishing key messages for their different recipients.
7. Realising effective oral presentations that are suited to the audience.
8. Managing the available time in order to accomplish the established objectives and fulfil the intended task.
9. Working autonomously.
10. Critically arguing the operations of the institutions and economic actors.
11. Diagnosing specific situations and economic problems.
12. Reflecting on the proposals of current economic policies, in several fields (financial, fiscal, incomes policy, etc.) and several territories (World, Europe, Spain).
13. Analysing and explaining the economic dimensions behind public policies.
14. Critically analysing the impacts of reinforcement policies and subsidies.
15. Efficiently describing forms of public intervention concerning the economic system.
16. Assessing the role of the public sector as an economic agent.
17. Explaining the consequences of a fiscal reform and changes on the government's tax issues.
18. Describing the ecological taxation and its relationship with the principle of sustainability.
19. Explaining political principles and impact of (distributive and redistributive) tax policies on economic inequality and social equity.
20. Analysing the impact of structuring factors of the economy and international trade (institutions, policies, and actors).
21. Describing the stages of the Spanish post-1960 economic development.
22. Specifying the roles, dimensions and structure of the public sector in the economy.
23. Analysing the management of human resources, the dynamics and sectoral structure of active population and the functioning of labour market.
24. Describing the central elements of the Spanish production structure: the agricultural, industrial, and service sectors.
25. Describing the Spanish foreign sector: the dynamics of import/export, foreign investments in Spain and Spanish investments abroad.
26. Explaining the main characteristics of the economic policies of western governments.
27. Critically assessing the options in the economic policies taken by the Spanish governments since the Transition.

Contents

Topic 1. Basic characteristics of the Spanish economic growth.

Topic 2. The Spanish economy in the 1990s and entry into European Monetary Union (EMU).

Topic 3. The economic growth in the 2000s and the macroeconomic imbalances. The ECB monetary policy. Increase in the external debt and the real estate bubble.

Topic 4. The financial crisis and economic recession in 2008-2013. Policy responses to the crisis: from

expansive policies to austerity. The debt crisis and the bailing out of the banking system.

Topic 5. Stability problems in the EMU. Institutional and policy responses. Towards a European banking union.

Topic 6. The economic recovery in 2014-2021: Recovery and COVID. Growth with a balanced current account. Analysis of the main macroeconomic variables.

Topic 7. 2022-2026. The current state of the Spanish economy. Inflation and monetary policy. The new fiscal rules. The Recovery plan. Medium and long-term challenges.

Topic 8. Income distribution and spatial inequalities.

Topic 9. Overview of the Spanish public sector. Main sources of public revenue. Public expenditures. Public deficit and debt.

Topic 10. The public pension system and its reforms.

Topic 11. The financing of the Autonomous Communities, with particular reference to the Generalitat de Catalunya.

Topic 12. Demographic trends and migration flows. Active population: evolution, age and gender differences. The role of furlough schemes during the crisis

Topic 13. The labour market: Occupied and unemployed population characteristics (age, gender, studies). Occupation determinants. Unemployment causes. Wage setting mechanisms and wage gaps. Labour market reforms

Topic 14. Productive structure and drivers of competitiveness.

Topic 15. The financial system and the reform of the banking institutions.

Learning activities and methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Office hours	6	0.24	4, 8, 10, 11
Lectures	30	1.2	2, 4, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27

Study and recommended activities	92	3.68	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27
Case studies and exercises	15	0.6	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11

The teaching methodology consists on:

Lectures. Standard lectures in class. Class attendance is essential, but needs to be complemented with personal work at home.

Essays on current events and case studies. Students may be asked to work in small groups for some of these, which may include discussions, presentations and specific analyses on key issues, as well as the treatment of statistical information sources. Some tutorials may take place at the computer room.

Self-learning activities. Complementary to the course. The student is supposed to dedicate enough time and effort to understand and assimilate the contents of the course through reading and studying the notes, texts and other materials suggested by the lecturer, and through the completion of the exercises or essays indicated during the course.

The proposed teaching methodology may undergo some modifications according to the restrictions imposed by the health authorities on on-campus courses

Annotation: within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Assessment

Continuous assessment activities

Title	Weight	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
2. Final exam (second part)	35%	2	0.08	3, 4, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 26
1. Mid-term exam	35%	2	0.08	3, 4, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27
4. Exercises, class attendance and participation	15%	2	0.08	1, 2, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13
3. Essay on the Spanish economy	15%	1	0.04	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11

Assessment will be carried out continuously throughout the course, in accordance with the following criteria:

1. Mid-term exam: 35%
2. Final exam (second part): 35%
3. Essay on the Spanish economy: 15%.
4. Recommended activities, class attendance and participation: 15%.

The evaluation of the theoretical content of the subject will be carried out through two written tests. The first one will take place in the middle of the term and the second in the date set by the Faculty for the final exam. Each of the tests has the same weight in the final assessment (35%).

Therefore, the average grade of the subject is obtained as: 35% (grade of the first test) + 35% (grade of the second test) + 15% (grade of essay on the Spanish economy) + 15% (grade of recommended activities,

attendance and participation).

In order to pass the subject, any student should meet the following two:

1. the average grade of the subject is equal to or greater than 5 and,
2. The average grade obtained at the two partial exams is equal to or greater than 3.5.

Therefore:

- If a student meets the first requirement but not the second, he/she will have an average grade of the subject of 4.5 and will be attend the retake test, as explained below in the section "Retake process".
- If a student meets the second requirement but not the first, or doesn't meet any of them, he/she will obtain an average grade of the subject that arises from the direct application of the previous weightings, and will be able to attend the retake test (see "Retake process" below).

Any student who has not attended any of the two written tests will be considered as 'non-assessable'

In accordance with article 117.2 of the UAB Academic Regulations, the evaluation of those students who have been enrolled before may consist of a single synthesis examination. The students who wish to be evaluated this way should contact the professor at the beginning of the semester.

Comprehensive evaluation

Students are entitled to request a comprehensive evaluation. The comprehensive evaluation consists of an exam on the content of the entire course which will account for 100% of the final grade. The exam has a duration of two hours.

By requesting the comprehensive evaluation the student waives the option of continuous evaluation.

The comprehensive evaluation must be requested at the Academic Management (Gestió acadèmica) of the Faculty. The request must be filed according to the procedure and the deadline established by the administrative calendar of the Faculty.

Student attendance is mandatory on the day of the comprehensive assessment. The exam will take place on the official date fixed by the Faculty.

For the retake procedure the same system established for the continuous assessment will apply.

The review of the final qualification will follow the same procedure as for the continuous evaluation

Retake Process

"To be eligible to participate in the retake process, it is required for students to have been previously been evaluated for at least two thirds of the total evaluation activities of the subject." Section 3 of Article 112 ter. The recovery (UAB Academic Regulations). Additionally, it is required that the student to have achieved an average grade of the subject between 3.5 and 4.9.

Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

In this course, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies is permitted for assessed activities carried out outside the classroom, but exclusively for support tasks such as bibliographic or information searches, text correction, or translations. The use of AI for data collection, processing, or analysis is explicitly prohibited.

When instructors design activities that involve the use of AI, specific instructions will be provided on how it

should be used in each case.

Irregularities in evaluation activities

Any irregularity committed during an assessment activity (academic fraud, plagiarism, or improper use of AI, unless such use is expressly authorized in the course syllabus) that may lead to a significant variation in the grade will result in that assessment being graded as 0. If the course syllabus establishes that obtaining a minimum grade in that assessment activity is an essential requirement to pass the subject or if multiple irregularities occur in the assessment activities of the same subject, the final grade for the subject will be 0.

In addition, disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who commits any of these irregularities.

The teaching staff reserves the right to conduct oral interviews or require an alternative assessment in order to verify the student's effective acquisition of the required knowledge and competencies and, consequently, the validity of the assessment activities completed by the student.

Bibliography

García Delgado, J.L. i Myro, R. (2025): *Lecciones de economía española*, Ed. Thomson Reuters, 18a edición.

Bank of Spain. Annual Report. Available at:

https://www.bde.es/bde/es/secciones/informes/Publicaciones_an/Informe_anual/

M.J. Moral Rincón (2022), *Manual de Economía Española*, FUNCAS. Disponible a:

<https://www.funcas.es/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Manual-de-Economia-Espanola.pdf>

Specific references will be provided for each unit

Software

Spreadsheet

Course groups and languages

The information provided is provisional until November 30. After this date, you will be able to consult the language of each group through this [link](#). To access the information, you will need to enter the course CODE

Type of teaching	Group	Language	Semester	Shift
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed