

27519 - Macroeconomics II

Syllabus Information

Academic Year: 2021/22

Subject: 27519 - Macroeconomía II

Faculty / School: 109 - Facultad de Economía y Empresa

Degree: 449 - Degree in Finance and Accounting

ECTS: 6.0

Year: 2

Semester: Second semester

Subject Type: Compulsory

Module:

1. General information

1.1. Aims of the course

The subject and its expected results respond to the following approaches and objectives:

The student, passing this course, acquires sufficient knowledge of the fundamental interrelationships between short, medium and long-term phenomena, as well as the particularities of the operation of an economy open to the outside world. This knowledge will be verified by diagnosing the problems posed by particular situations in the real situation of a country or region, and by judging the best economic policy alternatives to solve them.

These aims are in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the UN member states as part of the 2030 Agenda (<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/>) and contribute to these specific goals and targets:

Goal 4: Quality education

Target 4.3: By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university.

Target 4.4: By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.

Target 4.5: By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations.

1.2. Context and importance of this course in the degree

The course Macroeconomics II is included within the first set of subjects, named "Economic Theory", a subset of module I, Environment, *Economy and Business*.

This module deals with "the basic socio-economic and business knowledge that the student needs to understand the context in which he is going to develop his professional activity in the field of accounting and finance". Within the socioeconomic fundamentals, the functioning of national economies, including the relationship between goods and financial markets, the international context, and the repercussions of public policies constitute the object of macroeconomics.

1.3. Recommendations to take this course

As the subject title indicates, the syllabus of Macroeconomics II is based on that of Macroeconomics I. Hence, having studied Macroeconomics I previously is recommendable in order to gain the maximum benefit from this subject. A good grasp of the concepts and procedures studied in Microeconomics I and the analytical tools in Mathematics I and II is also recommended.

2. Learning goals

2.1. Competences

Specific skills

- Understand the nature of the company and the institutions, their relationship with the economic, environmental, legal, and social environment, and its impact on the financial and accounting areas of the organizations.
- Identify, interpret and evaluate the financial and accounting information of companies and institutions to identify their strengths and weaknesses, as well as to advise from a technical, financial and accounting approach in the decision-making process.
- Ability to prepare external and internal accounting and financial reports, as well as to obtain and issue an independent opinion on the accounting information of an organization.

Transversal skills

- Capacity to analyze and synthesize
- Capacity to solve problems
- Ability to understand and interpret texts of an economic nature.
- Develop collaborative and working attitudes in multidisciplinary or multicultural teams, as well as develop a critical attitude for debate.
- Ability to innovate in all aspects, as well as to adapt to new environments: social, cultural, technological.
- Motivation for autonomous and continuous learning.

2.2. Learning goals

To pass this subject, students must show a sufficient level of knowledge of the fundamental interrelationships between short, mid, and long-term phenomena, as well as the distinctive features of how an economy open to the world functions. This knowledge will be verified via a diagnosis of the problems emerging from specific situations in a country or region and the student's judgement of the best economic policy alternatives to solve them.

Students who pass this subject will be able to:

1. Distinguish between the short, mid, and long-term aggregate dynamics of economies: agents, flows, assets, and relevant prices in each case. To be specific, to point out the motors which guarantee positive economic growth rates.
2. Interrelate the short, mid and long-term dynamics with the appropriate mechanisms of how markets work.
3. Identify the influence of the flexibility or rigidity of markets, especially of the labor market, on the dynamic behavior of economies.
4. Identify short-term behavior as a phenomenon of economic cycles fluctuating around a long-term tendency and be able to identify its origin.
5. Identify the specific features of the behavior of the main markets and economic policy tools within open economies. To be specific, the exchange rate and capital mobility systems, as well as the opportunities and limits that open economies represent.
6. Propose mid and long-term economic policy diagnoses and measures in strongly globalized dynamic macroeconomic contexts.

2.3. Importance of learning goals

In light of what has been said about the requirements to pass the subject and about the learning results, we can say that this subject will allow the student to:

- Have the basic knowledge of an economist, and a sufficient basis to acquire other superior knowledge in subjects such as: Labor, International, Monetary or Innovation Economics, Economic Growth, Higher Level Macroeconomics, etc.
- Apply knowledge already acquired in other compulsory subjects and basic training, such as Mathematics I and Mathematics II (Basic linear algebra, Differential calculus, Optimization), Microeconomics I (basic principles of theory of consumption, production, and operation of markets), Macroeconomics I, and Economic History
- Complement their knowledge with subjects such as Microeconomics II, and all those related to Statistics and Econometrics.
- Facilitate higher knowledge of applied subjects such as Current Economic Situation.

3. Assessment (1st and 2nd call)

3.1. Assessment tasks (description of tasks, marking system and assessment criteria)

The student will prove that he/she has achieved the expected learning results by means of one of these ways:

1. Evaluation through two tests, one mid-term and another at the end of the course. These tests will be made up of

multiple-choice questions and/or the resolution of practical-theoretical exercises associated with part of the subject. They will be carried out on the dates determined by the center for mid-term and final tests. The student will be considered to have passed the subject in this way if the average of the two tests (marked out of 10) is equal to or over 5 and they have not obtained a mark below 3.5 in any of the two tests. Otherwise, the student will be considered as not presented by this way.

2.-General overall assessment: students who do not choose the first option, or do not pass the subject by such way, or wish to improve their mark, will be able to sit the general exam. Their final mark will be the best one they achieve in either of the options. The general exam is an exam based on a group of practical or theoretical questions.

Students will be able to pass the subject with the maximum mark they obtain under either system. If a student decides to use both systems, their final mark will be that which is more favorable for the student.

The second sitting of the assessment exam will be carried out in a similar way to the exam mentioned above.

The tests are planned to be made face-to-face, but could be made online if required due to sanitary circumstances. In on line tests the student can be recorded; in such case, the student can exercise its rights as stated in:

https://protecciondatos.unizar.es/sites/protecciondatos.unizar.es/files/users/lopd/gdocencia_reducida.pdf

Adequate software will be used to check the originality of the activities realized. If plagiarism or copy are detected in any activity, the grade will be set to 0.

4. Methodology, learning tasks, syllabus and resources

4.1. Methodological overview

The methodology followed in this course is oriented towards the achievement of the learning objectives. A wide range of teaching and learning tasks are implemented, such as lectures, practice sessions, autonomous work, study and assessment tasks.

Students are expected to participate actively in class throughout the semester.

Further information regarding the course will be provided on the first day of class.

4.2. Learning tasks

The course includes the following learning tasks:

- Lectures: Credits: 1,2. Class attendance and participative solving of problems. The professor will explain the basic contents of the subject proposing questions to help the students assimilate the contents correctly. Students should complement these explanations with the recommended bibliography.
- Practice sessions: Credits: 1,2. Class attendance, problem solving and case studies applying specific technical tools. Students will solve practical exercises under the supervision of the professor. The groups will be split for these classes to facilitate the students' participation and a more personalized attention from the professor
- Tutorials and seminars: Credits: 0,6. Tutorial and complementary activities.
- Autonomous Work: Credits: 3. Exercise solving. Using ICT. Preparing work projects and exams.

The teaching methodology is planned to be face-to-face. However, if necessary for health reasons, classes may be taught online.

4.3. Syllabus

The course includes the following learning tasks:

Part one: Mid and long-term economics

- Topic 1. Inflation and unemployment. Mid-term and economic cycles. *Economies as time goes by. The Phillips Curve. Mid-Term and Natural Unemployment rate. Dynamic Supply and Dynamic Demand. Rational Expectations*
- Topic 2. Long-term growth. *The facts of Growth. The Solow model. Sources of growth. Growth Accounting*

Part two: Open economy

- Topic 3. Currency markets and exchange rates. *Nominal and Real Exchange Rates. Supply and Demand for foreign currency. Fixed and Flexible exchange rate systems. Equilibrium in the foreign currency market: the BP function*
- Topic 4. Open economy model. Mundell-Fleming. *Goods Markets and Financial Markets. Fixed exchange rate. Foreign currency markets and policy. Interventions. Fiscal, Monetary and Exchange Rates Policies. Flexible Exchange rates: Fiscal and Monetary Policies*

4.4. Course planning and calendar

The calendar for in-class teaching sessions will be published on the web page of the faculty. The order of the different activities throughout the course will be explained in class by the professor at the beginning of the course and published on the web page. The approximate distribution of hours of in-class learning (theoretical and practical) for the different chapters is given by the following schedule:

Chapter	Theory	Practice	Total
1	10	10	20

2	5	5	10
3	5	5	10
4	10	10	20
Total	30	30	60