Universidad Zaragoza

Academic Year/course: 2021/22

30610 - Macro-economics I

Syllabus Information

Academic Year: 2021/22
Subject: 30610 - Macro-economics I
Faculty / School: 109 - Facultad de Economía y Empresa
Degree: 432 - Joint Law - Business Administration and Management Programme
ECTS: 6.0
Year: 2
Semester: Second semester
Subject Type: Compulsory
Module:

1. General information

1.1. Aims of the course

One of the general objectives of these studies is that ?*graduates must know the connection of the normal development of all these functional areas with the general objectives of the productive unit, and of these objectives with the global context of the economy...*?. Macroeconomics I is aimed at defining and modelling substantial aspects of this global context of the economy.

Among its specific goals, the subject deals with the acquisition of knowledge and skills over a series of aspects - the first of which is ?*the nature of the company and its relationship with the immediate and ?near immediate? economic environment*.? Macroeconomics deals with the characterization of this environment; to be specific, with the aims laid out in annex 1.d): ?*the explanation of the aggregate production, of the effect of the quantity of money, inflation, unemployment and economic growth. The role of economic policy tools?, and in* 1.f), which includes ?*the national and international economic reality, the importance of different productive sectors, of the public sector, of economic institutions and their evolution*.?

As this subject is in the second year of the first cycle of the study programme, it will apply knowledge already acquired in other basic and compulsory subjects such as Mathematics I and Mathematics II (basic lineal algebra, differential calculus, optimization), Microeconomics I and Economic History. The subject will also be complemented with subjects from areas such as Microeconomics II, Statistics I and II, and Econometrics.

Likewise, a good level in Macroeconomics will provide students with a suitable context for following subjects such as Economic Policy, Spanish Economics, Regional and International Economics, Public Economics, Economic Growth, Financial Economics, Innovation and Labour Economics.

These approaches and objectives are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 agenda and certain specific goals (https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/en/), contributing to some extent to their achievement:

Goal 4: Ensure inclusive, equitable and quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Target 4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all men and women to quality technical, professional and higher education, including university education

Target 4.4 By 2030, significantly increase the number of young people and adults who have the necessary skills, particularly technical and professional skills, to access employment, decent work and entrepreneurship

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

1.2. Context and importance of this course in the degree

The relation between this subject and others in the degree can be seen in the following graph:

1.3. Recommendations to take this course

The student must understand and be able to handle basic knowledge from Lineal Algebra, Differential Calculus and Static Optimization. Additionally, basic knowledge from Statistics, Microeconomics I and Economic History is recommended.

2. Learning goals

2.1. Competences

After completing the course, the student will be competent in the following skills:

Show a capacity for resolving problems.

Show a capacity for analysis and synthesis.

Show a capacity for applying knowledge in practical situations.

Evaluate the current situation and foreseeable evolution of firms and organizations, make decisions and extract relevant knowledge.

Issue advisory reports on specific situations of markets, sectors, organizations, firms and their functional areas.

Understand and apply professional criteria and scientific rigour to solving economic, business and organizational problems.

2.2. Learning goals

The student, in order to pass the course, will have to show her/his competence in the following skills:

Identify the agents, assets, flows and relevant prices in any aggregate economic system.

Describe the aggregate processes of resource allocation, especially in production mechanisms, income distribution and economic stabilization which result from the functioning of the markets.

Identify the nature, limits and consequences of the flexibility and rigidity of markets ? especially of the labour market ? on the aggregate behaviour of economies.

Distinguish clearly between the financial, nominal and real behaviours of aggregate economic systems.

Foresee the effects of the current economic policy tools on the behaviour of the main markets and on mechanisms of production and income distribution.

2.3. Importance of learning goals

The subject matter and its expected results respond to the need to prepare students in the field of Macroeconomics for the development of their professional career. Macroeconomics I also lays the foundations for students to obtain the most benefit from Macroeconomics II.

As stated previously, studying Macroeconomics provides students with an essential preparation to be able to acquire knowledge of economic policy, Spanish economics, regional and international economics, public economics, economic growth, financial economics, innovation economics and labour economics.

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 the following assessment tasks:

Continuous assessment testing which evaluates the acquisition of macroeconomic knowledge based on part of the subject programme.

A final exam assessing the acquisition of knowledge based on the overall subject programme.

Assessment criteria

Marking of the different assessment activities will be carried out via the following assessment procedures:

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 centre 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 continuous assessment option, or do not pass the subject via continuous assessment, 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 will be a final exam based on a group of practical or theoretical questions.

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

Continuous assessment marks will be made public by the respective professors a week before the final exam. The second sitting of the assessment exam will be carried out in a similar way to the final exam mentioned above.

These tests are expected to be carried out in person but if the health circumstances require it, they will be carried out semi-on-site or online. In the case of online assessment, it is important to note that, in any test, the student may be recorded, and he or she may exercise his or her rights by the procedure indicated in: https://protecciondatos.unizar.es/sites/protecciondatos.unizar.es/files/users/lopd/gdocencia_reducida.pdf The necessary software will be used to check the originality of the activities carried out. The detection of plagiarism or copying in an activity will imply the qualification of 0 points in it ?.

4. Methodology, learning tasks, syllabus and resources

4.1. Methodological overview

The learning process that has been designed for this course is based on the following activities:

1. *Participative master classes.* 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.
2. *Practical classes.* Students will solve practical exercises under the supervision of the professor. The groups will be split as long as there is enough teaching availability for these classes so as to facilitate the students' participation and a more personalized attention from the professor

4.2. Learning tasks

1. This course is organized as follows:

   Theory sessions (1.2 ECTS: 30 hours). Class attendance and participative problem solving. The professor will explain the basic contents of the subject proposing questions to help the students assimilate the contents properly. Students should complement these explanations with the recommended bibliography.

   Practice sessions (1.2 ECTS: 30 hours). 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 as long as there is enough teaching availability for these classes so as to facilitate the students' participation and offer a more personalized attention from the professor

   Tutorials and seminars (0.6 ECTS: 15 hours). Tutorial and complementary activities.

   Autonomous work and study (3 ECTS: 75 hours). Exercises solving. Using ICT. Preparing assignments and exams.

   In principle, the teaching delivery methodology is planned to pivot around face-to-face classes. However, if necessary for health reasons, classes may be taught semi-face-to-face or online.

4.3. Syllabus

Program

Part 1ª: Introduction and basic concepts:

Chapter 1: Concept and scope of Macroeconomics

1. Macroeconomics and Microeconomics
2. Macroeconomic Problems

Chapter 2: Basic Aggregate Magnitudes: Basic Elements of the Model

1. The Institutional Sectors
2. Measuring production in a closed economy: expenditure, income and added value perspectives
3. The Balance of Payments
4. Macromagnitudes in an open economy

Part 2ª: The Short Run:

Chapter3: The Goods Market

1. The Basic Assumptions
2. Demand, Supply and Equilibrium
3. Comparative Statics
4. Aggregate Demand and interest rate: the IS function

Chapter 4: The Financial Markets.

1. Money and Financial Assets
2. Financial Intermediaries
3. The Expansion Process of Banking Assets
4. Central Banks and Monetary Policy

5. The Demand for Money
6. Equilibrium in the market for money: the LM function

Chapter 5: Equilibrium in the short run with constant prices- the IS-LM Model

1. Simultaneous equilibrium in both markets, goods and money
2. Fiscal Policies
3. Monetary Policies
4. Interaction between Monetary and Fiscal Policies

Part 3ª: The Complete Model of the Short Run:

Chapter 6: Equilibrium in the short run with variable prices- the AD-AS model

1. Aggregate Demand
2. Aggregate Supply
3. Equilibrium in the AD-AS model
4. Fiscal and Monetary Policies
5. Changes in the Supply Function

4.4. Course planning and calendar

Calendar of actual sessions and presentation of works

MACROECONOMICS I

SUBJECT	**THEORY**	**PRACTICALS**	**Total**
1	2	2	4
2	5	6	12
3	5	5	10
4	5	5	10
5	6	6	12
6	6	6	12
Total	30	30	**60**

Activities and key dates will be explained in class and posted on the web page of the subject when the academic term starts. The dates of the final exams can be consulted on the web pages of the Faculty.