

27410 - Microeconomics I

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2023/24

Subject: 27410 - Microeconomics I

Faculty / School: 109 - Facultad de Economía y Empresa

Degree: 417 - Degree in Economics

ECTS: 6.0

Year: 2

Semester: First semester

Subject type: Compulsory

Module:

1. General information

The main objective of this subject is that students learn basic knowledge of microeconomic theory.

Starting from the description of the market and the interactions between supply and demand, each of them is studied individually and under the prism of economic analysis. Thus, the consumer and producer behaviours are studied, leading to the definition of the demand function and the supply function, respectively. The instruments to carry out the analysis will be verbal reasoning, graphic representation and mathematical analysis.

These approaches and goals are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations (<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/es/>), specifically, the activities planned in the subject will contribute to the achievement of Goals 4 and 8.

2. Learning results

In order to pass this subject, students must:

- A. Understand the method of work in economic analysis, identifying its elements.
- B. Describe and correctly interpret any decision problem of a consumer or producer economic agent by means of verbal reasoning, graphical representations, and mathematical analysis (calculus and elementary algebra).
- C. Describe and interpret simple extensions of consumption theory.
- D. Formally pose the basic problems of an individual economic agent as a conditional optimization problem, identifying the relevant endogenous and exogenous variables, obtain its quantitative solution (behavioural equations) and deduce how the solution would change when faced with variations in its environment (comparative statics).
- E. Reasonably predict the outcome of the interaction of numerous economic agents in competitive markets in the short run, know their determinants and describe (partial) equilibria and dis-equilibria.
- F. Conduct policy analysis and economic policy recommendations based thereon.
- G. Correctly and accurately employ the basic language of an economist to describe phenomena in the field of microeconomics.
- H. Develop autonomous learning and prepare written reports, according to established guidelines.

3. Syllabus

Part I: Introduction

1. Concept and scope of economics

Part II: Theory of demand

2. Preferences, utility and budget constraint
3. Consumer choice
4. The individual and market demand function
5. Extensions of the theory of consumption

Part III: Theory of supply

6. Production
7. Cost minimization and production maximization

4. Academic activities

Lectures: 30 hours

Practical classes: 30 hours

Personal Study: 88 hours

Assessment tests. 2 hours

6 ECTS = 150 hours

In principle, the teaching methodology and its evaluation is planned to be based on face-to-face classes . However, if circumstances so require, they may be carried out online.

5. Assessment system

The subject will be evaluated by means of two evaluation activities (continuous and/or global) in the first call and by means of a global evaluation during the second call.

Continuous assessment:

It will consist of two tests. In the first (50% of the final grade) the contents of topics 1 to 4 will be evaluated. In the second (remaining 50%) topics 5 to 7 will be evaluated. Both tests will consist of questions of a theoretical and practical nature (between 40 and 60% of the total grade) and practical exercises, and will be evaluated out of 10 points. In order to pass the subject an average grade equal to or higher than 5 points must be obtained, having obtained a minimum grade of 3.5 points in each test.

While the first test will be held during the teaching period, the second test will be held on the days set aside for it before the exam period. In case of having passed the continuous evaluation, the student who wishes to improve their grade will have the right to take the global test in the official call, prevailing, in any case, the best of the grades obtained.

Global assessment:

It will consist of a global test in which the totality of the subject taught will be evaluated. This test will be held in the two official calls. The test will consist of theoretical and theoretical-practical questions (between 40 and 60% of the total grade) and practical exercises, and will be evaluated on 10 points. A passing grade of 5 points is required to pass.

Evaluation criteria:

The evaluation will consist of verifying that the student:

- Knows and understands the concepts contained in the subject.
- Correctly applies the techniques of economic analysis.
- Selects relevant information and interprets it appropriately.
- Expresses his reasoning in a clear and orderly manner.