

SYLLABUS for the course

Basic data for the course	
Academic unit:	Faculty of Economics
Title of the course:	Economic Theory and Methods
Level:	Bachelor
Status of the course:	Obligatory
Year of studies:	3 rd year, 6 th semester
Number of hours per week:	2 hours lecture + 2 hours exercises
ECTS credits:	6
Time/location:	To be decided
Tutor:	Prof. Asoc. Dr. Valentin Toci
Tutor's contact details:	valentine.toci@uni-pr.edu
Content of the course	
	This is a course on mathematical tools that can be used to rigorously explore questions about economic decision-making in the face of resource scarcity. The course focuses on integrating quantitative methods with economic theory in order to critically analyze applied economic problems. Emphasis throughout is placed on developing communication skills critical to working as an applied economist. After successful completion of this course, students will be able to: Integrate quantitative methods and fundamental economic theory to develop a rigorous theoretical framework that addresses a research question; Develop quantitative arguments about the relationships between key economic variables; Learn how software can be used in the application of economic models – particularly Excel; Present written mathematical economic arguments in a style consistent with convention and appropriate for a range of audiences; Orally present mathematical and economic material to a range of audiences, including policy-makers and academics; Defend an argument or model and critique its strengths and weaknesses; Provide constructive and professional feedback to your colleagues.
Course's objectives:	The goal of the subject is equipping the students with skills to write effectively in multiple contexts for a variety of audiences; Communicate effectively as speaker and listener; Engage in effective critical inquiry by defining problems, gathering and evaluating evidence, and determining the adequacy of argumentative discourse.
The expected outcomes:	After successful completion of this course, students

	<p>will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate quantitative methods and fundamental economic theories • Develop a rigorous theoretical framework that addresses a research question; • Develop quantitative arguments about the relationships between key economic variables • Develop and present written mathematical economic arguments in a style consistent with convention and appropriate for a range of audiences • Determine and interpret arguments for the usage of the different research methods and models, and produce constructive and professional feedback.
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The students' workload (*hours per semester, ECTS*)

Activity	Weeks	Hours	Total
Lectures	13	2	26
Seminars (theoretical and practical)	2	8	16
Case studies	0	0	0
Direct contact with tutor	5	1	5
Field research	0	0	0
Colloquiums	2	2	4
Homework	2	6	12
Individual study (at library or at home)	15	3	45
Final preparation for the exam	2	6	12
Evaluation	0	0	0
Projects, presentation etc.	15	2	30
Total			150

Teaching methods:	<p>Students will have to attend 2 hours of lectures and 2 hours of exercise. The students during the lectures have the opportunity to interact. The consultations are offered to students as per the announced schedule. 60% theory and 40% practice.</p>
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Assessment methods:	<p>Attendance/In-class Assignments 10%; Homework / Problem Sets 20%; Research Paper and Oral Presentation 30%; Tests (20% each) 40%.</p>
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Literature

Basic literature:	<p>Chiang, A., Wainwright, K. (2005). <i>Fundamental Methods of Mathematical Economics</i> (4th ed.). Boston, MA: McGraw-Hill.</p>
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Additional literature:	Hoy, M., Livernois, J., McKenna, C., Rees, R., & Stengos, T. (2011). <i>Mathematics for Economics</i> (3rd ed.). Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
	During the class sessions, the working papers will be suggested and distributed

The detailed plan of work:	
Week	Topic
<i>Wee 1</i>	Quantitative methods and fundamental economic theories
<i>Wee 2</i>	Quantitative methods and fundamental economic theories
<i>Wee 3</i>	Software applications and development of economic models
<i>Wee 4</i>	Software applications and development of economic models
<i>Wee 5</i>	Software applications and development of economic models
<i>Wee 6</i>	Development of a theoretical framework for setting up a research question
<i>Wee 7</i>	Test 1
<i>Wee 8</i>	Development of a theoretical framework for setting up a research question
<i>Wee 9</i>	Mathematical economic models
<i>Wee 10</i>	Mathematical economic models
<i>Wee 11</i>	Development of mathematical models and data interpretation; empirical studies
<i>Wee 12</i>	Development of mathematical models and data interpretation; empirical studies
<i>Wee 13</i>	Development of empirical reports based on economic models
<i>Wee 14</i>	Development of empirical reports based on economic models
<i>Wee 15</i>	Test 2

Academic policies and code of conduct:
Cheating on examination; Plagiarism; Misrepresentation or falsification of data of an examination; Unauthorized communication during examinations; Knowingly allowing another student to represent your work as his or her own; Forgery, alteration, or knowing misuse of graded examinations, quizzes, grade lists, or official records of documents; Theft or destruction of examinations or papers; Submitting the same work in more than one course; Altering or destroying another student's work or records, Attempting improperly to influence the award of any credit, grade, or honor; Violation of the rules governing teamwork; Failure to comply with the sanctions imposed under the authority of this code.