



Introdução à Economia/Introductory Economics

0. Overview

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2021/2022

2nd Quarter (P2)

(Hours/week: 2T + 1.5P)



Course objectives

The main objective of the IEco course is to provide students with a first contact with economic concepts fundamental to their daily lives as citizens, engineering, science and technology professionals, and consumers.

Students are expected to gain an understanding and familiarity with basic and structuring issues in societies such as unemployment, inflation, GDP and economic growth, globalization, inequality, innovation, the role of the economy in climate change, sustainability, and social responsibility.

After completing this course students should be qualified with the necessary skills to understand the economic environment in which their professional activity will unfold, across established companies, start-ups, and government institutions.



Course Outline

Syllabus

1. Markets, efficiency and the role of the Government
2. GDP and economic growth, innovation and technological progress
3. Inflation, unemployment and inequality
4. Banks, money and the credit market; financial crises and globalization
5. Economic Policy
6. Economy, environment and climate change
7. Digital Economy, information, and social challenges



Course Materials

- *The Economy* – <https://www.core-econ.org/the-economy/book/text/0-3-contents.html>
- *Economia do Bem Comum*, Jean Tirole, 2018, Guerra e Paz.
- *Principles of Economics*, N. Gregory Mankiw and Mark P. Taylor, 2017, 4th edition, Cengage Learning.
- *Introduction to Microeconomics*, L. M. B. Cabral, 2021, <http://luiscabral.net/economics/books/micro/intro%20micro%20v%201.3.1.pdf>
- *Foundations of Real-World Economics*, John Komlos, 2nd edition, 2019, Routledge, Taylor and Francis.
- Other texts may be recommended along the course
- Available in Fénix: slides from the theoretical sessions + exercises for the problems' sessions + additional reading



Grading

- Course project 20%; in groups of 3 students each; deliver week 5; short presentation in week 7 in P session. Make sure that the members of the group belong all to the same practical shift.
- MAP30=30%, week 4, in T session
- MAP45=50%, week 7, in T session
- $NF=0.2P+0.3\max\{MAP30,Ex\ part1\}+0.5\max\{MAP45,Ex\ part2\}$
- Minimum grade of 9.5 in the individual assessment (corresponding to $0.3\max\{MAP30,Ex\ part1\}+0.5\max\{MAP45,Ex\ part2\}$):
- Exam=February 4. Students may choose to replace only the MAP30, the MAP45, or both.
- “Época especial”=100% Exam



Grading

- The project:
 - Choose a current news related with the course content
 - Explain, analyze and discuss the news in light of the course concepts
 - If adequate, use statistics to reinforce your view
 - Groups of three students. Fill in your group composition until January 3rd, 22:00 in the following link:
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1D3G9taE0YXkKXSL49tunVAgCS95MCZvju4jSLuqiHyl/edit#gid=0>
 - Deliver until Friday of week 5, 22:00
 - Length: 2 pages maximum. Follow detailed guidelines posted in the course web page.



Other - Important

- See regularly the course web page for the final exam dates, class slides and exercises, and other documents. **Important announcements will also be posted in Fenix.**