Microeconomics

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| Course code | ECO103 |
| Compulsory in the programmes | *Finance, Economics and Politics, Industrial Technology and Management* |
| Level of studies | *Undergraduate* |
| Number of credits | *6 ECTS (48 in-class hours + 6 consultation hours + 2 exam hours, 104 individual work hours)* |
| Course coordinator (title and name) | *Assist. Prof. Dr. Simonas Čepėnas* |
| Prerequisites | *Principals of Business, Economics and Management* |
| Language of instruction | *English* |

**THE AIM OF THE COURSE:**

This course provides an introduction to analysis of economic behavior. The ability to predict market outcomes is indispensable not only for a sound business strategy but also for a meaningful public policy. The main focus of the course is on optimal decision making, understanding determinants of demand and supply, market equilibrium, strategic behavior, and welfare analysis. Introduction to choice under uncertainty and the general equilibrium analysis is also covered.

The course will teach an analytical approach to the functioning of market mechanisms, economic behavior of market participants, market environment impact on competition, and business strategies. Students will acquire the skills and the ability to apply microeconomic analysis and optimization methods to a large variety of economic/business problems.

**MAPPING OF COURSE LEVEL LEARNING OUTCOMES (OBJECTIVES) WITH DEGREE LEVEL LEARNING OBJECTIVES (See Annex), ASSESMENT AND TEACHING METHODS**

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| Course level learning outcomes (objectives) | Degree level learning objectives BBM | Degree level learning objectives BSC | Assessment methods | Teaching methods |
| CLO1. Understand the main theories in microeconomics | BLO 1.1  BLO 1.2 | ELO 1.1  ELO 1.2 | Midterm, final exam | Lectures, seminars |
| CLO2. Analyze and model microeconomic phenomena | BLO 1.1 | ELO 1.1  ELO 1.2  ELO 2.1 | Midterm, final exam | Lectures, seminars |
| CLO3. Evaluate governmental policy as it relates to microeconomics | BLO 1.1  BLO 4.2 | ELO 1.1  ELO 1.2 | Midterm, final exam | Lectures, seminars |
| CLO4. Graphically model microeconomic situations | BLO 1.1  BLO 4.2 | ELO 1.1  ELO 4.2  ELO 4.3 | Midterm, final exam | Lectures, seminars |
| CLO5. Relate real economic experiences to theory | BLO 1.2  BLO 4.2 | ELO 1.2  ELO 4.2 | Midterm, final exam | Lectures, seminars |
| CLO6. Identify economic situations at the firm and personal level | BLO 1.2  BLO 4.2 | ELO 1.2  ELO 4.2 | Seminar participation and group activities | Lectures, seminars |
| CLO7. Develop researching skills | BLO 4.1  BLO 4.2 | ELO 4.1  BLO 4.3 | Seminar participation and group activities | seminars |

**ACADEMIC HONESTY AND INTEGRITY**

The ISM University of Management and Economics Code of Ethics, including cheating and plagiarism are fully applicable and will be strictly enforced in the course. Academic dishonesty, and cheating can and will lead to a report to the ISM Committee of Ethics. With regard to remote learning, ISM remind students that they are expected to adhere and maintain the same academic honesty and integrity that they would in a classroom setting.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

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| **Week** | **Topic** | **In-class hours** | **Readings** |
| **Seminars** |  |
|  | Introduction to Microeconomics. Elasticity of demand and supply. Introduction to Consumer behavior. | 4 | [1, 2, 3 ch.] |
|  | Consumer behavior. Individual and market demand. Uncertainty. | 4 | [3, 4, 5 ch.] |
|  | Production and Cost of Production | 4 | [ 6, 7 ch.] |
|  | Profit maximization and competitive supply | 4 | [8 ch.] |
|  | The Analysis of Competitive Markets | 4 | [9 ch.] |
|  | Market power: monopoly and monopsony  Monopolistic competition and oligopoly | 4 | [10 and 12 ch.] |
|  | *Midterm exam* | 2 | Review all previous chps. |
|  | Introduction to Game theory | 4 | [13 ch.] |
|  | Duopoly competition: Cournot, Bertrand and Stackelberg models | 4 | Gibbon’s [Introduction to Applied GT](https://web.mit.edu/rgibbons/www/Gibbons_An%20Introduction%20to%20Applicable%20Game%20Theory.pdf) |
|  | Markets for factor inputs | 4 | [14 ch.] |
|  | Gains from free trade.  Collective action problems: externalities and public goods | 4 | [16, 18ch.], other readings TBA |
|  | Mechanism Design: Markets with asymmetric information | 4 | [17 ch.], Akerlof’s [Market for Lemons](https://viterbi-web.usc.edu/~shaddin/cs590fa13/papers/AkerlofMarketforLemons.pdf) |
|  | **Total hours** | **48** |  |
|  | CONSULTATIONS | 2 |  |
|  | FINAL EXAM | 2 |  |

**FINAL GRADE COMPOSITION**

**Assessment methods**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Assignment** | **Topics** | **Final grade, %** |
| Midterm exam | 1-6 | 50 |
| Final exam | 7-13 | 50 |
| Total |  | 100% |

**Midterm examination.** The midterm exam will be based on topics 1-6. The midterm exam consists of theoretical questions, case analysis and problem solving; the format may be multiple answer questions, open-ended questions, and economic problem. Consultations are set during seminars. The midterm exam will account for 50% of the final grade**.**

**End-semester final exam.** The final exam will be based on topics 7-13. The final exam consists of theoretical questions, case analysis and problem solving; the format may be multiple choice plus questions plus additional problem solving and/or open answer questions. Consultations are set during seminars. The final exam will account for 50% of the final grade**.**

**The retake exam.** A retake exam will consist of all course material including the midterm and end-semester exam and will have 100% weight in calculation of the final cumulative grade.

**Readings:**

1. Pindyck R.S, Rubinfeld D.L, *Microeconomics,* 7th edition, Prentice Hall, 2009
2. Gibbons, R. (1997). An Introduction to Applicable Game Theory. *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*, *11*(1), 127–149. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2138255>
3. George A. Akerlof. (1970). “The Market for ‘Lemons’: Quality Uncertainty and the Market Mechanism.” The Quarterly Journal of Economics, vol. 84, no. 3, pp. 488–500, <https://doi.org/10.2307/1879431> .

**Additional readings:**

TBA and will be posted on ISM Elearning

**ANNEX**

**DEGREE LEVEL LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

**Learning objectives for the Bachelor of Business Management**

*Programmes:*

*International Business and Communication,*

*Business Management and Marketing, Finance,*

*Industrial Technology Management*

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| **Learning Goals** | **Learning Objectives** |
| Students will be critical thinkers | BLO1.1. Students will be able to understand core concepts and methods in the business disciplines |
| BLO1.2. Students will be able to conduct a contextual analysis to identify a problem associated with their discipline, to generate managerial options and propose viable solutions |
| Students will be socially responsible in their related discipline | BLO2.1. Students will be knowledgeable about ethics and social responsibility |
| Students will be technology agile | BLO3.1. Students will demonstrate proficiency in common business software packages |
| BLO3.2. Students will be able to make decisions using appropriate IT tools |
| Students will be effective communicators | BLO4.1. Students will be able to communicate reasonably in different settings according to target audience tasks and situations |
| BLO4.2. Students will be able to convey their ideas effectively through an oral presentation |
| BLO4.3. Students will be able to convey their ideas effectively in a written paper |

**Learning objectives for the Bachelor of Social Science**

*Programmes:*

*Economics and Data Analytics,*

*Economics and Politics*

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| **Learning Goals** | **Learning Objectives** |
| Students will be critical thinkers | ELO1.1. Students will be able to understand core concepts and methods in the key economics disciplines |
| ELO1.2. Students will be able to identify underlying assumptions and logical consistency of causal statements |
| Students will have skills to employ economic thought for the common good | ELO2.1.Students will have a keen sense of ethical criteria for practical problem-solving |
| Students will be technology agile | ELO3.1. Students will demonstrate proficiency in common business software packages |
| ELO3.2. Students will be able to make decisions using appropriate IT tools |
| Students will be effective communicators | ELO4.1.Students will be able to communicate reasonably in different settings according to target audience tasks and situations |
| ELO4.2.Students will be able to convey their ideas effectively through an oral presentation |
| ELO4.3. Students will be able to convey their ideas effectively in a written paper |