Course: Economics II
Code: 10BBA60001

Type: Required    Year: 1    Semester: 2
ECTS Credits: 6
Language: Spanish
Coordination:

Faculty:
Josep Comajuncosa Ferrer
Josep Domènech Ponsi
Anna Laborda Coronil

Course requirements:

Previous knowledge:

Workload distribution:

Lectures 28 hours
Participatory sessions 33.5 hours
Independent study 112.5 hours
Tutorials / feedback 6 hours

Course contribution to the programme:
The Economics III course is part of the degree students’ education in Economics, so it has the following contributions in common with the department’s other courses:

1) Awakening the student’s ability to analyse, mental agility and critical mindset in relation to a company’s problems and economic relationship with its environment.

2) To provide the highest possible level of professional training and the information content needed for the future executive or manager.

Course learning objectives:
By the end of the course, students:

a) Will have acquired the knowledge and tools needed to analyse and interpret reality from an economic perspective;

b) Will be able to make critical approaches to plans, decisions and microeconomic and macroeconomic policies, bearing in mind questions relating to corporate social responsibility.

Arising from these general objectives, a number of more specific objectives will be approached during the course, connected to the development of specific competences:

A. Presenting frames of reference, theory and tools and the keys for their use in analysing situations/cases and in the proposal of measures/solutions for their improvement.

B. Facilitating the definition of concepts, theories and models.

C. Promoting the integration and structuring of knowledge acquired on the course, by carrying out tasks designed with this objective in mind.

D. Promoting the critical mindset in analysing reality, particularly economic reality.
Skills developed:
- The ability to acquire, understand and structure knowledge critically.
- The ability to apply knowledge to obtain results.
- The ability to develop strategic thought and systematic thought.

Contents and methodology:

Contents:

Block 1: Additions to the competitive market model.


4 hours of lectures (on average, across all the blocks, there are 2 hours of lectures for 2.5 hours of participatory sessions)


4 hours of lecture


4 hours of lectures

Block 2: Competitive structures and market failures

Theme 4: Competition and market power: monopoly, natural monopoly, exercising market power, efficiency failures, monopsony.

4 hours of lectures

Theme 5: Game theory: game concept and strategy concept; use of game theory in negotiation analysis; Nash Equilibrium.

4 hours lecture

Theme 6: Externalities and public goods: the concept and importance of externality; problem solving methods; concept and importance of public goods; problem solving methods.

4 hours of lectures

Theme 7: Information: types pf information - incomplete, imperfect and asymmetric – and the most important implications of information failure.

4 hours of lectures

Methodology:

The learning process is based around three fundamental methods:

a) Lecture sessions, in which the student is expected to behave in a way that allows appropriate time management, and to come to the session having prepared the corresponding reading material.

b) Practical sessions in small groups, in which the students, with the Professor’s help, solve practical exercises and reasoning questions. In these sessions, there may be tests with no
previous warning. The student’s attitude in these classes is taken into consideration in the evaluations.
c) Participatory sessions, following on from the lectures, in which students work on the application of theoretical concepts in two ways: (1) to obtain a deeper understanding and (2) to practice applying them to the understanding of economic reality. The tool selected in each session may be one of the following: case study discussion, individual work, concept map, or text commentary. These sessions may also include unannounced tests. The student’s attitude in these classes is taken into consideration in the evaluations.

**Evaluation:**
Exams and tests. Attitude in participatory sessions.

It can be considered that the objectives have been achieved, if:
The global grade for exams and course tests is 5 or over;
Class attendance has been at least 80% (excepting justified absences);

The grade for the course is weighted in the following manner:
Exam grade (80%)
Participatory and practical sessions grade (20%)

Exams:
There will be a Partial Exam for possible subject exemption at about halfway through the course, and a Final Exam. In order to be exempt from certain subjects, students must obtain a grade of over 4 (out of 10) in the Partial Exam. In such cases, the grade will be weighted at 50% with that obtained in the Final Exam.
If students do not achieve any subject exemption through the Partial Exam, the Final Exam will contain all the subjects covered on the course. The final exam grade must be at least 4 (out of 10) in order to be weighted with the tests.

Participatory and practical classes:
In the participatory classes, there are a number of tests throughout the course, which enable the students to see whether they are making sufficient progress in their knowledge and skills acquisition.
The tests may take the form of answering conceptual questions in limited space, answering multiple-choice questionnaires or working individually or in a group on a previously set task.
Attendance and behaviour also contribute to the class grade.

Assessment of your performance during the course will take into consideration the acquisition of the learning objectives, on a scale of 0 to 10.

Information relating to the development of competences worked on throughout the course may be considered in the 0 to 10 grade, and will also be reflected from A to D in an independent indicator. The indicator will be incorporated into all the courses, and will be used to monitor each student’s progress throughout the programme.

**Core bibliography:**
Case & Fair Principios de Microeconomía, Pearson – Prentice Hall, 8ª Edición, 2008

**Further reading and bibliography:**
Frank & Bernanke Princípios de Microeconomía, McGraw Hill, 1ª edición, 2007
Varian, H.R., Microeconomía Intermedia. Antoni Bosch 7ª ed.