



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Political Economy

1920-4-A5810202

Learning objectives

Students learn about macroeconomic principles, data analysis and knowledge of the main economic indicators. Students learn about macroeconomic problems and policy instruments for resolving economic slowdowns.

Contents

The classical approach: the economy in the long run

Microfoundations of macroeconomics

Growth theory

Business cycles

Current debates in macroeconomics and policy intervention

Detailed program

Introduction (ch. 1, 2)

-Fundamentals of macroeconomics

-Macroeconomic data

Classical theory and the long-run

- national Income and GDP (ch. 3)

- Money (ch. 4)

- Inflation (ch. 5)

- Open economy (ch. 6)

- Unemployment (ch. 7)

The microeconomic foundations of macroeconomics

- Consumption (ch. 18)

- Investment (ch. 19)

- The financial system (ch. 20)

Theory of growth

- Capital accumulation and population growth (ch. 8)

Business cycles

- Economic cycles (ch. 10)
- Aggregate demand and IS-LM (ch. 11 e 12)
- Open economy and exchange rate regimes (ch. 13)
- The inflation/unemployment trade-off (ch. 14)
- Stabilization policies (ch. 15)
- Public debt (ch.16)
- Optimal currency areas and the EMU (ch. 17)

Prerequisites

Public Economics

Teaching methods

Lectures complemented by on-line material.

Assessment methods

Due to the COVID emergency the exam rules have been updated, according to the University recommendation. The new rules will hold until the end of the crisis.

Students will take an oral exam on Webex platform. Students may submit an essays two days before the exam investigating one of the topics suggested during lectures. The first part of the exam will be a discussion of the essay. The essay is optional.

Students are requested to have a personal document for identity check and a couple of blank paper sheets.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

N.G. Mankiw, M.P. Taylor, Macroeconomia, Zanichelli, 2015

US edition: Macroeconomics, Worth Publishers, NY, 2014.

