

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Macroeconomia M

2021-2-F8204B025

Learning objectives

Enable students to understand fundamental issues in growth and business cycle theory, and to estimate business cycle models.

Contents

The course presents key developments in advanced macroeconomic theory. The student will be able to interpret the "stilized facts" concerning growth and the business cycle, using advanced tools of modern macroeconomic theory.

Detailed program

- The first part of the course addresses two key issues: i) what determines long-run growth; ii) why is per capita income in some countries higher than elsewhere. Topics include the role of technical change, savings rate, population growth.
- The second part presents real business cycle models, where technology shocks drive economic fluctuations.
- The third part incorporates nominal rigidities (wage and price stickiness) into RBC models, the so called New Neoclassical synthesis. Other frictions will also be considered (consumption habits, variable capacity utilization, capital adjustment costs, cash in advance constraints). Students will learn the basic tools for model simulation and estimation.
- The fourth part analyses the introduction of financial variables and frictions in macroeconomic models, and how these topics relate to asset prices and yields determination.

Prerequisites

Standard undergraduate courses in maths, statistics, micro and macro.

Teaching methods

Classroom lectures and tutorials. Project preparation.

In case of need of distance teaching, lectures will be remotely recorded with simultaneous videoconference events.

Assessment methods

Written exam (two questions), 5/9 of final mark. Evaluation focuses on methodological rigour and analysis of theoretical models.

Project preparation, 4/9 of final mark. Evaluation focuses on knowledge of software and interpretation of empirical results.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

- D. Romer, Advanced Macroeconomics, McGraw-Hill
- J. Galí, Monetary Policy, Inflation, and the Business Cycle: An Introduction to the New Keynesian Framework and Its Applications, Princeton University Press

Documents on the course website

Semester

Second semester

Teaching language

Italian