UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Tassazione, Efficienza, Benessere

2021-3-E3301M200

Learning objectives

This course aims at leading the student to apply the techniques and the notions he/she acquired in his/her previous years to the analysis of the main issues raised by contemporary taxation systems.In particular, by the end of the course the student shall know how: a) to describe the features and analyze the implications of main theoretical models used in the literature to study optimal taxation of incomes, consumption and profits in domestic contexts; b) to critically discuss real-world models of income, consumption and profit taxes applied in Europe and in the US; c) to analyze the issues raised by the application of income, consumption and profit taxes in an international context and to critically discuss the solutions proposed in the contemporary debate. This year, the course will be focussed, in particular, on the reform of the Italian tax system

Contents

Introduction. Purposes of the tax system. The Italian case.

Unit 1 Income taxes in a national context. Italian personal income tax (Irpef) and its reform.

Unit 2 Consumption taxes in a national context. Vat (Iva) and its reform.

Unit 3 Profit taxes in a national context. Ires and Irap.

Unit 4 The application of income, consumption and profit taxes in an international context.

Detailed program

Unit 1. Income taxes in a national context. The Italian personal income tax (IRPEF) and its reform.

1. 1. The basic elements of Irpef (lecture 2).

1.2. The contributions of the theory to the definition of the tax base (lecture 3) and to the definition of the optimal tax rate (lecture 4).

1.3. Vertical equity, progressivity and horizontal equity (lecture 6).

1.4. Using economic theory to analyze Irpef (lecture 7).

Unit 2 Consumption taxes in a national context. Vat (Iva) and its reform.

2.1. The structure of VAT (lecture 8).

2.2. Graphical analysis of the efficiency of consumption taxes (lecture 9).

2.3, Optimal consumption tax rates (lectures 10 and 11).

2.4. More on the efficiency of VAT (lecture 12)

2.5. Using economic theory to analyze VAT and its possible reform (lecture 13).

2.6. Environmental taxes (lecture 14)

Unit 3 Profit taxes in a national context. Ires and Irap.

3.1.Theory: the impact of taxes on firm's choices. Real and financial neutrality.

3.2. Real-world taxes : the example of Italy (Ires) and some possible alternatives.

Unit 4. Issues in the application of taxes in an international context

4.1. Taxation of individuals and of multinationals: worldwilde vs territorial principle

4.2. Taxation of international sales.

Prerequisites

Surplus calculation for consumers and producers.

Maximization of functions of more than one variable: derivation and interpretation of first and second order conditions.

Interpretation of integral functions.

Teaching methods

Teaching methods will be based on University's regulations and communicated as soon as possible.

Assessment methods

The assessment methods will be communicated in accordance with COVID-19 containment measures as decided by public authorities and by the University.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Lecture notes and slides available on the elearning website.

Semester

Second semester

Teaching language

Italian