UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Economic Statistics I

2122-1-E4101B008

Learning objectives

Students will be introduced to the main methodologies and tools for the quantitative representation of the economic system. In particular, the architecture of the official Italian economic statistics will be presented. The meaning and construction of official statistics in Italy and Europe will be discussed and their strength and weaknesses will be highlighted.

Contents

1. Economic Statistics and National Accounts

2. Economic circuit and intersectorial transactions

3. Index numbers and Consumer price indexes

4. distribution and Inequality measures

Detailed program

- Economic Statistics and National Accounts.

- Main Sources of Economic statistics.
- Classification of economic statistics and associated surveys.
- The Italian economic system: main aggregates and the GDP.
- Index Numbers.
- Laspeyres and Paasche indexes.
- Properties of index numbers.
- Fisher index.
- Chained indexes.
- Consumer price indexes in Italy and Europe.
- Production price indexes and industrial production index .
- Poverty and Inequality measurement: introduction and definition according to World Bank.
- Inequality measurement and fgures in Italy and Europe.
- Poverty measures and figures in Italy and Europe.

Prerequisites

None

Teaching methods

Up-front lessons, largely complemented by the analysis of official statistics and economic debate on the topic.

Assessment methods

The exam is written and oral.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

- compendio di statitsca economica, edizioni simone.

- Enrico Giovannini, 2015, Le Statistiche Economiche, second edition, Il Mulino.

- Methodological manuals by ISTAT.

extra reading among :

Darrel Huff : mentire con le statistiche
G.J. Jones : mentire con i grafici

Daniel Levitin : a field guide to lies in statistics

Campbell : flaws and fallacies in statistical thinking

Reinhardt : statistics done wrong

Blasland and Dilnot : the tiger that is not.

Semester

First Semester.

Teaching language

Italian