UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Project and Policy Assessment

2324-2-F8802N025

Learning area

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding: to master intermediate concepts of the economics of instruments supporting private and public choices.
Applying knowledge and understanding: to acquire practical core competences on methods of applied analysis and ex ante assessment of decisions by firms and governments.

Contents

The course is devoted to the analysis of economic evaluation techniques of private and public investments, including public policies. The syllabus is as follows:
a) investment project assessment,
b) cost - benefit analysis,
c) disaggregated and aggregated multi-criteria methods.

Detailed program

The syllabus is as follows:

1 course introduction

2-4 investment project assessment: financial decisions, money, time, interest rates

5-8 investment project assessment:: criteria, flows, analysis

9-10 investment project assessment:: case studies

11-15 cost - benefit analysis: theory

16-17 cost - benefit analysis: case studies

18 multi-criteria methods: theory

19 multi-criteria methods: case studies

Prerequisites

Mastery of core theoretical and methodological knowledge about economics and economic policy, beside learning, writing and verbal communication competences. Several first-year courses are connected to this one, without being pre-requisites for it.

Teaching methods

Lectures in Italian; applied teamwork classes; weekly office hours (if necessary also via Webex); e-mail conversations.

Assessment methods

One written essay (4000-7000 words, in Italian/English/French/Spanish), discussing a case study or a research project chosen by the student (inclusing a selection of lecture contents) following guidelines posted on the course's web page. Students e-mail the essay to the lecturer 48 hours in advance. On the exam's day, short discussion of the essay.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Lecture contents are discussed in the following texts as well:
- Berk J. and DeMarzo, P., *Corporate Finance*, Addison-Wesley, [ch.1-9] (2007);
- De Rus G., *Introduction to Cost-Benefit Analysis*, Elgar, [all] (2021).
- Munda G., *Social Multi-Criteria Evaluation for a Sustainable Economy*, Springer, [all] (2007);
- Lecture slides, applied materials and further references (guidelines, bibliographies, issues, on line documents), also for final dissertations, uploaded on the course’s teaching materials web page.
The assessment is based on the essay, not on the textbooks.

Sustainable Development Goals

INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE