



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

### Microeconomia e Storia Economica

2425-1-E1801M061

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#### Learning objectives

The course provides students with the conceptual tools necessary for the examination and interpretation of the main economic phenomena. The final aim is the acquisition of skills related to learning, investigation and analysis, with particular reference to microeconomics and the historical development of economic systems. The students learn to face the problems of the economic systems, demonstrating the understanding of the concepts expressed in the basic literature, also through the recognition of models that exemplify the theoretical concepts. The course also provides students with the conceptual tools and information necessary for the examination and interpretation of the main historical-economic phenomena.

At the end of the course, students are expected to be able to understand the mechanism that lead to market prices, and their role in determining market outcomes, evaluating the consequences in terms of efficiency and equity.

#### Contents

Global History  
Evolution of trade and technology  
Evolution of markets  
Functioning of markets and market structures

#### Detailed program

Microeconomics

1. The concept of market, demand and supply functions
2. Endogenous and exogenous variable and comparative static methods

3. Modeling of rational behavior of agents, and specifically:
  - a. Utility maximization
  - b. Individual demands
4. Trade and surplus from trade
5. Production function and modeling rational production decisions
6. Forms of market organization and their role

#### Economic History

- I) The basic elements of historical-economic research;
- II) 1760-1830: From the Industrial Revolution to the foundation of Belgium
- III) 1830-1869: from Belgium to the opening of the Suez Canal
- IV) 1869-1914: from Suez to the Great War
- V) 1915-1947: the infra-war period
- VI) 1948-1973: Marshall Plan- first oil crisis
- VII) 1973-1992: from the oil crises to the Maastricht Treaty
- VIII) The Global World

### **Prerequisites**

Microeconomics :

Calculus

Constrained optima

Economic History

Basic knowledge of contemporary history, at secondary school level

### **Teaching methods**

Microeconomics

Blended Elearning

Economic History

Oral lectures

### **Assessment methods**

Microeconomics

For attending students the final evaluation is the average between

1. two partial written exams each consisting of two theoretical questions and one exercise, which totally will count for 80%
2. a online discussion forum that will count for 20%

For non-attending students the final evaluation will be based on a written examination consisting of four theoretical questions and an exercise.

Economic History  
Written final test

The students are strongly suggested to attend the course.

## **Textbooks and Reading Materials**

Microeconomics

Edgar K. Browning Mark A. Zupan "Microeconomia: Teoria e Applicazioni", Pearson, 2021.

Mario Gilli "Esercizi svolti di Microeconomia", Pearson 2023.

Economic History

V. Zamagni, "Perché l'Europa ha cambiato il mondo. Una storia economica", Bologna, il Mulino, 2024.

## **Semester**

Second semester

## **Teaching language**

Italian

## **Sustainable Development Goals**

GENDER EQUALITY | DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH | REDUCED INEQUALITIES | CLIMATE ACTION

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