

Macao Polytechnic Institute
School of Applied Sciences
Bachelor of Science in Computing

Module Outline

Learning Module	Introduction to Economics		Class Code	MSEL104
Pre-requisite(s)	NIL			
Medium of Instruction	English		Credit	3
Lecture Hours	45 hrs	Lab/Practice Hours	---	Total Hours 45 hrs

Description

This course aims at providing a fundamental knowledge of Economics to students who never study it in a tertiary level. Students should demonstrate a sound understanding in both microeconomics and macroeconomics. Students become familiar with some important microeconomics topics, such as the economic problem, how markets work in terms of demand and supply, households' choice and market failure and government. Other macroeconomics topic, such as the macroeconomic policy and the economy in the short and long run will be investigated. Besides, this course will also look into the advantages given by the present resource of Macau economic environment. This course will also let the students understand the fundamental theories and applications of economics in both micro and macro perspectives.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the learning module, students will be able to:

1. Understand the fundamental knowledge and principles of economics; (ET1p, ET2p)
2. Comprehend characteristics and development trend of economics; (ET1p, ET2p, ET3p)
3. Make reasonable comments on the phenomenon of economics; (ET2p, ET3p)
4. Apply relevant theories to analyze the current, local Macao economy. (ET1p, ET2p, ET5p)

Content

1. What is Economics and are the Economic Problem? (4 hours)
 - 1.1. Definition of Economics
 - 1.2. Two Big Economics Questions
 - 1.3. The Economic Way of Thinking
 - 1.4. Economics : A Social Science
 - 1.5. Production Possibilities and Opportunity Cost
 - 1.6. Using Resources Efficiently
 - 1.7. Economic Growth and Gains from Trade
 - 1.8. Economic Coordination

2. Demand and Supply (3 hours)
 - 2.1. Markets and Prices – Supply and Demand
 - 2.2. Market Equilibrium
 - 2.3. Predicting Changes in Price and Quantity

3. Elasticity, Efficiency and Equity (4 hours)
 - 3.1. Price Elasticity of Demand
 - 3.2. Resource and Allocation Methods
 - 3.3. Demand and Marginal Benefit
 - 3.4. Supply and Marginal Cost
 - 3.5. Is the Competitive Market Efficient

4. Households' Choices, Possibilities, Preferences, and Choices (4 hours)
 - 4.1. The Household's Budget
 - 4.2. Preferences and Utility, Maximizing Utility
 - 4.3. Predictions of Marginal Utility Theory
 - 4.4. Efficiency, Price and Value
 - 4.5. Consumption Possibilities
 - 4.6. Preferences and Indifference Curves
 - 4.7. Predicting Consumer Behavior

5. Perfect Competition (4 hours)
 - 5.1. What is Perfect Competition?
 - 5.2. The Firm's Decisions in Perfect Competition
 - 5.3. Output, Price, and Profit in Perfect Competition
 - 5.4. Changing Tastes and Advancing Technology
 - 5.5. Competition and Efficiency

6. Regulation and Externalities (4 hours)
 - 6.1. The Economic Theory of Government
 - 6.2. Monopoly and Oligopoly Regulation
 - 6.3. Externalities in Our Lives
 - 6.4. Negative Externalities: Pollution
 - 6.5. Positive Externalities: Knowledge

7. Public Goods and common Resources (2 hours)
 - 7.1. Classifying goods and Resources
 - 7.2. Public goods and the Free-Rider Problem
 - 7.3. Common Resources

- | | | |
|-----|--|-----------|
| 8. | A First Look at Macroeconomics | (5 hours) |
| | 8.1. Origins and issues of Macroeconomics | |
| | 8.2. Economics Growth and Fluctuations | |
| | 8.3. Jobs and Unemployment | |
| | 8.4. Inflation and the dollar | |
| | 8.5. Surpluses, deficits, and Debts | |
| | 8.6. Macroeconomic Policy Challenges and Tools | |
| 9. | Measuring GDP and Economic Growth | (3 hours) |
| | 9.1. Gross Domestic Product | |
| | 9.2. Measuring GDP | |
| | 9.3. Real GDP and the Price Level | |
| | 9.4. The Uses and Limitations of Real GDP | |
| 10. | Money, the Price Level, and Inflation | (3 hours) |
| | 10.1. What is Money? | |
| | 10.2. Depository Institutions | |
| | 10.3. The Market for Money | |
| | 10.4. The Quantity Theory of Money | |
| 11. | Aggregate Supply and Aggregate Demand | (4 hours) |
| | 11.1. The Macroeconomic Long Run and Short Run | |
| | 11.2. Aggregate Supply | |
| | 11.3. Aggregate Demand | |
| | 11.4. Macroeconomic Equilibrium | |
| | 11.5. Macroeconomic Schools of Thought | |
| 12. | Unemployment, Business Cycles and Fiscal Policy | (5 hours) |
| | 12.1. Inflation Cycles | |
| | 12.2. Inflation and Unemployment: The Phillips Curve | |
| | 12.3. Business Cycle | |
| | 12.4. Generational Effects of Fiscal Policy | |
| | 12.5. Stabilizing the Business Cycle | |
| | 12.6. Investment, Saving and Economic Growth | |

Teaching Method

Lectures, videos, case studies, group discussion and presentation.

Attendance

Attendance requirements are governed by the “Academic Regulations Governing Bachelor’s Degree Programmes of Macao Polytechnic Institute”. Students who do not meet the attendance requirements for the course will not be permitted to sit for the final and re-sit examination and shall be awarded an ‘F’ grade.

Assessment

This learning module is graded on a 100 point scale, with 100 being the highest possible score and

50 being the passing score.

Item	Description	AHEP3 LO	Percentage
Assignments	Class and home exercises	ET1p, ET2p, ET3p, ET5p	20%
Test	Understanding of class material	ET1p, ET2p, ET3p, ET5p	20%
Presentation	Group work	ET1p, ET2p, ET3p, ET5p	20%
Examination	3-hour written examination	ET1p, ET2p, ET3p, ET5p	40%
Total Percentage:			100%

Students with an overall score of less than 35 in the coursework must take the re-sit examination even if the overall score for the course is 50 or above.

Students with a score of less than 35 in the final examination must take the re-sit examination even if the overall score for the course is 50 or above.

Students with an overall final grade of less than 35 are **NOT** allowed to take the re-sit examination.

Teaching Material(s)

Textbook(s)

1. Robin Bade and Michael Parkin (2018), *Foundations of Microeconomics*, Global edition (8th ed.). Pearson International edition.

Reference

Reference book(s)

1. Boyes W and Melvin M (2003). *Economics* (6th ed.). Houghton Mifflin.
2. Taylor J (2004). *Economics* (4th ed.). Houghton Mifflin.