UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI PALERMO

DEPARTMENT	Scienze Politiche e delle Relazioni Internazionali
ACADEMIC YEAR	2018/2019
BACHELOR'S DEGREE (BSC)	POLITICAL SCIENCES AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
INTEGRATED COURSE	POLITICAL ECONOMICS
CODE	18353
MODULES	Yes
NUMBER OF MODULES	2
SCIENTIFIC SECTOR(S)	SECS-P/01
HEAD PROFESSOR(S)	COGNATA ANTONIO Professore Associato Univ. di PALERMO
OTHER PROFESSOR(S)	COGNATA ANTONIO Professore Associato Univ. di PALERMO AUCI SABRINA Professore Associato Univ. di PALERMO
CREDITS	12
PROPAEDEUTICAL SUBJECTS	
MUTUALIZATION	
YEAR	1
TERM (SEMESTER)	1° semester
ATTENDANCE	Not mandatory
EVALUATION	Out of 30
TEACHER OFFICE HOURS	**AUCI SABRINA** Tuesday 15:30 17:00 In presenza: Dipartimento DEMS - 2° piano ex Collegio San Rocco - oppure online su piattaforma Microsoft, previo appuntamento da effettuare tramite email. **COGNATA ANTONIO** Monday 13:30 14:00 In aula alla fine della lezione senza bisogno di prenotazione Tuesday 13:30 14:00 In aula alla fine della lezione senza bisogno di prenotazione

PREREQUISITES	To learn the topics and to attain the objectives of the course some prerequisites are necessary and fundamental. The basic analytical and mathematical tools are the main requirements to comprehend the topics of the course. The mathematical and graphics analyses are features, which every student should have developed during his/her previous studies. The student, in fact, should have already studied the mathematical and logical arguments on which he/she will be able to attend and understand the economic theories and methodologies developed during the course.
LEARNING OUTCOMES	Knowledge and understanding Knowledge of analytical, quantitative and basic mathematical tools to understand the principles and the hypotheses of the microeconomics and macroeconomics theories and models. Applying knowledge and understanding The course permits to learn the ability to analyze economic problems, both micro and macro, selecting relevant information and applying the analytical method, which is most appropriate to the situation to be studied. The course will enable students to deepen knowledge of economics in order to understand the complexity of the markets and of the contemporary society and to solve economic and social problems in a competent and professional way. Making judgments The course allows students to develop the ability to make independent judgments and /or interpret autonomously relevant data and the surrounding reality. In particular, students will be able to combine theoretical aspects with political and administrative decisions of public institutions at all levels (local, national or supranational) in order to develop his/hers own opinion about the positive and negative effects that may arise. Communication By following this economic course, students will be able to develop appropriate economic language. Specifically, students will be able to communicate and express an opinion on economic issues, both of microeconomics and macroeconomics. They will be even able to interact on economic ideas and solutions both with specialists and non-specialists. Finally, students will be able to understand and to reflect on those economic concepts of commonly spread by popular media. Lifelong learning skills The course structure will broaden students' lifelong learning skills through their active participation to lessons. Both the inductive and deductive methodology will be necessary for a full understanding and comprehension of economic theories and models. In addition, the teacher will observe the level of knowledge and understanding in order to adapt lessons and practical lessons to the mean level of students' ability. This process of adjustment will allow teacher to improve students' learning capability increasing their knowledge on fundamentals of economics.
ASSESSMENT METHODS	The written final exam aims to evaluate whether the student has reached an adequate knowledge and a sufficient comprehension of the course topics and if he/she has acquired the ability to explain clearly the economic issues, developing an independent judgment. The written final exam is divided into two parts. The first section consists of two half-structured questions such as economic exercises, which permit to assess: a) knowledge and understanding through the ability to gather and interpret the course issues (i.e. theories, models, tools, etc.); b) processing capacity through the ability to produce independent judgments, to understand the applications and the implications of economic theories and models; and finally, c) language skills in economics necessary for communicate to both specialist and nonspecialist audiences in the future professional and socio-cultural activities. The second section of the written exam, which aims to assess more specific and detailed knowledge of the course topics, is structured in a series of multiple-choice questions (10 multiple choice questions) where the candidate should have to demonstrate his/hers understanding by choosing the correct answer among the others. The written final exam lasts one hour and a half and the assessment is expressed in thirtieths. The judgment on the candidate consists in the evaluation of the two sections of the written exam. While the second section, being a multiple-choice structure, allows determining in advance the score to be assigned to every right, wrong or omitted answer, the first section is evaluated on the basis of the candidate's capabilities in answering to all the sub-questions of the two half-structured questions. The minimum threshold mark to pass the written exam for the first section is achieved if only if the student demonstrates to have the basic knowledge of the course topics and the basic economic language skills, even if

	the ability to produce independent judgments, that include reflection on relevant economic issues may be little or mediocre. Below this threshold, the answers are evaluated insufficiently, while as much as the student demonstrates mastery of the subjects along with good economic language skills, the more high the mark will be. Therefore, the final examination mark will be the sum of the two sections' marks in which is structured the written exam.
TEACHING METHODS	The course is structured in lessons and practical classes.

<table>
<tr><td colspan="2" align="center">MODULE
MICROECONOMICS</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2" align="center">Prof. ANTONIO COGNATA</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">SUGGESTED BIBLIOGRAPHY</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Robert H. Frank, Ben S. Bernanke, Moore McDowell, Rodney Thom, Ivan Pastine, Principi di economia, 4/ed, 2013, McGrawHill
Capitoli 1-14
Carlo Di Giorgio, Luca Vitali, Economia politica - 100 esercizi - 1 prova d'esame, 2011, McGrawHill
Eserciziario facoltativo per la preparazione all'esame scritto</td></tr>
<tr><td>AMBIT</td><td>50202-discipline economiche-politiche</td></tr>
<tr><td>INDIVIDUAL STUDY (Hrs)</td><td>108</td></tr>
<tr><td>COURSE ACTIVITY (Hrs)</td><td>42</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES OF THE MODULE</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">The main objective of the course is to teach the essential characteristics of economic theories and practical applications, using a specific-economic language. In particular, the attention will be on the theoretical analysis and the practical solution of microeconomic problems. Microeconomics, like other social sciences, analyzes benefits and costs in choices and decisions of individual and aggregate parties such as consumers, households and firms as well as public entities such as the government and institutions, which have the powers to implement economic policies. In this way, the economic policies analysis of instruments and objectives according to different theoretical point of view will allow students to learn and understand the fundamental concepts, which will help to interpret the socio-political and economic surrounding reality</td></tr>
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SYLLABUS

Hrs	Frontal teaching
2	1) Problems of economic analysis
2	2) Demand and supply
2	3) Consumer's preferences and utility
4	4) Consumer choice theory
2	5) The theory of demand
2	6) The theory of production
4	7) Costs minimization
4	9) Costs' curves
2	9) Perfect competition
2	10) Competitive markets: applications
4	11) Monopoly
2	12) Price discrimination and advertising
2	13) Game theory and strategic behaviour
2	14) Market structure and competition
2	15) Risk and information
2	16) General equilibrium theory
2	17) Externalities and public goods
2	3) Consumer's preferences and utility (in-class test from the textbook)
2	15) Risk and information (in-class test from the textbook)

Hrs	Practice
2	1) Math review (in-class test from the textbook)
2	2) Demand and supply (in-class test from the textbook)
4	4) Consumer choice theory (in-class test from the textbook)
2	5) The theory of demand (in-class test from the textbook)
2	6) The theory of production (in-class test from the textbook)
4	7) Cost minimization (in-class test from the textbook)
4	8) Costs' curves (in-class test from the textbook)
2	9) Perfect competition (in-class test from the textbook)
2	10) Competitive markets (in-class test from the textbook)
4	11) Monopoly (in-class test from the textbook)
2	12) Price discrimination and advertising (in-class test from the textbook)
2	13) Game theory and strategic behaviour (in-class test from the textbook)
2	14) Market structure and competition (in-class test from the textbook)
2	16) General equilibrium theory (in-class test from the textbook)

2	17) Externalities and public goods (in-class test from the textbook)

MODULE
MACROECONOMICS

Prof.ssa SABRINA AUCI

SUGGESTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Robert H. Frank, Ben S. Bernanke, Moore McDowell, Rodney Thom, Ivan Pastine, "Principi di economia", 4/ed, 2013, McGrawHill

Testi ulteriori per approfondire gli aspetti matematici e per prepararsi agli scritti dell'esame:
Additional references to deepen mathematical aspects and to prepare for the written exam:

Carlo Di Giorgio, Luca Vitali "Economia politica - 100 esercizi - 1 prova d'esame", 2011, McGrawHill

Spaziani Stefania, "Eserciziario di Macroeconomia e Politica Macroeconomica", 2015, Tangram Edizioni Scientifiche, Trento

Spaziani Stefania, "Compendio di Economia Politica", 2017, Primiceri Editore, Padova

Krugman P. e Wells R., "L'essenziale di economia", 2018, Zanichelli, Bologna

Krugman P. e Wells R., "Macroeconomia", 2013, Zanichelli, Bologna

AMBIT	50202-discipline economiche-politiche
INDIVIDUAL STUDY (Hrs)	108
COURSE ACTIVITY (Hrs)	42

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES OF THE MODULE

The main objective of the module is to teach the essential characteristics of economic theories and practical applications, using a specific-economic language. In particular, the attention will be on the theoretical analysis and the practical solution of macroeconomic problems. Macroeconomics, like other social sciences, analyzes benefits and costs in choices and decisions of aggregate private parties such as households and firms as well as public entities such as the government and institutions, which have the powers to implement economic policies. In this way, the economic policies analysis of instruments and objectives according to different theoretical point of view will allow students to learn and understand the fundamental concepts, which will help to interpret the socio-political and economic surrounding reality.

SYLLABUS

Hrs	Frontal teaching
2	Introduction to macroeconomics
2	Measuring the economic activity: GDP, price level and inflation rate
2	Measuring the employment and unemployment level
2	Long run economy: a) Economic growth, productivity and living standards and b) Savings, investments and capital formation2
2	Short run economy: a) short run economic fluctuation
2	Short run economy: b) short run expenditure and production: income-expenditure model
2	Short run economy: c) Money, interest rates, banks and central bank
2	Short run economy: d) IS-LM model
2	Short run economy: e) Stabilize the economy: fiscal policy
2	Short run economy: f) Stabilize the economy: monetary policy
2	Short run economy: g) AD- AS model
2	Short run economy: h) inflation targeting

Hrs	Practice
2	Practical classes on GDP and inflation rate
2	Practical classes on long run analysis
2	Practical classes on income-expenditure model
2	Practical classes on monetary multiplier
2	Practical classes on IS-LM model
2	Practical classes on fiscal policy effects within the IS-LM model
2	Practical classes on monetary policy effects within the IS-LM model
2	Practical classes on AD-AS model
2	Practical lesson on Central Bank reaction function