

Economics (F001019)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 6.0

Study time 180 h

Course offerings in academic year 2025-2026

A (semester 1)	Dutch	Gent
B (semester 1)	Dutch	Gent
C (semester 1)	Dutch	Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Merlevede, Bruno

EB21

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Science in Psychology(main subject Personnel Management and Industrial Psychology)	5	B
Bachelor of Science in Psychology(main subject Theoretical and Experimental Psychology)	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in History	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences	5	B
Bachelor of Science in Geography and Geomatics	5	B
Bachelor of Science in Mathematics	6	A
Master of Science in Movement and Sports Sciences(main subject Sports Policy and Sports Management)	6	A
Master of Science in Biochemistry and Biotechnology	5	B
Master of Science in Computer Science	5	B
Master of Arts in Multilingual Business Communication	3	C
Micro-credential Accounting and Economics	5	B
Micro-credential Economics and Business Administration	5	B
Micro-credential Principles of Economics	5	B
Postgraduate Programme in Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Engineering – Advanced	6	A
Postgraduate Programme in Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Engineering – Foundations	6	A
Linking Course Master of Science in Health Care Management and Policy	6	A
Linking Course Master of Science in Urbanism and Spatial Planning	5	B
Preparatory Course Master of Science in Complementary Studies in Business Economics(main subject Business Economics)	5	B
Preparatory Course Master of Science in Complementary Studies in Business Economics(main subject Taxation)	5	B
Preparatory Course Master of Science in Complementary Studies in Economics	5	B
Preparatory Course Master of Science in Health Care Management and Policy	6	A
Elective Set Business Economics	5	B
Elective Set Economics	5	B

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Introduction to economics

Position of the course

This introductory course provides insight into the economic way of thinking. The

course familiarizes students with a number of central economic concepts, phenomena and mechanisms in order to enable the student to understand and analyze economic reality and current affairs. On the one hand, the course provides a number of traditional economic tools and on the other hand, it examines recent economic developments. After an introductory welfare analysis, we analyze recent economic developments with attention to economic growth (technology and institutions) and inequality, the role of market forces versus government, competition, globalization, and sustainability.

Contents

Below is a list of topics that are covered in this course.

- Partim of 3 credits covers topics 1-9
- Partim of 5 credits covers topics 1-12
- Partim of 6 credits covers topics 1-15 where items 13-15 are a number of (extra) concepts that are elaborated in more depth via the electronic learning environment.

Via lecture:

- 1 What is economics and how is our economy doing? Economics, sustainability, and interdisciplinarity
- 2 The economist's analysis tools: basic concepts, definitions, models
- 3 Markets, equilibrium and the benefits of trade
- 4 GDP, government and microeconomic policy
- 5 The role of the private sector and companies
- 6 Competition and markets
- 7 Long-term growth and inequality
- 8 The role of money
- 9 Business cycles and macroeconomic government policy
- 10 Globalization and economic interdependence
- 11 Economic schools
- 12 External effects and sustainable development
- 13 Elasticities elaborated*
- 14 Utility theory and behavior*
- 15 Current topic* (e.g. pension problems, health care costs, ...)

* via online electronic learning environment

Initial competences

No prior knowledge or attitude required, given the introductory nature

Final competences

- 1
1. Understand and apply basic concepts and mechanisms in economics
- 2
2. Understand and analyze current (and historical) economic developments

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Self-study via online tools in electronic learning environment (for items 13-15, only for partim of 6 credits)

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Oikonomia

Indicative price: € 51

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Author : Johan Albrecht en Bruno Merlevede

ISBN : 978-9-46393-642-2

Type: Slides

Name: Slides

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Available on Ufora : Yes

Additional information: slides available in powerpoint format via Ufora, possibly limited printing costs for students who wish to print the slides

References

Any good basic economics textbook

Course content-related study coaching

Students can ask questions to the professor or assistants in class or by email. At the request of the students, one or two collective question/review sessions can also be provided in which questions submitted by the students are dealt with.

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Written exam with multiple choice questions, standard setting for score calculation

Calculation of the examination mark