

Economics (F000758)

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

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2025-2026

A (semester 1)

Dutch

Gent

lecture

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Merlevede, Bruno

EB21

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

crdts

offering

Master of Science in Teaching in Science and Technology(main subject Chemistry)

5

A

Master of Science in Chemistry(main subject (Bio)Organic and Polymer Chemistry)

5

A

Master of Science in Chemistry(main subject Analytical and Environmental Chemistry)

5

A

Master of Science in Chemistry(main subject Materials and Nano Chemistry)

5

A

Master of Science in Geology

5

A

Master of Science in Physics and Astronomy

5

A

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

- 1 What is economics and how is our economy doing? Economics, sustainability, 1 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

Initial competences

No prior knowledge or attitudes required, given the introductory nature of the course

Final competences

- 1 Knowledge of a number of fundamental economic mechanisms and the ability to apply this knowledge.
- 2 Understand and analyse economic development

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

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Oikonomia Inzicht in Economie

Indicative price: € 50

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Author : Johan Albrecht, Bruno Merlevede

ISBN : 978-9-08931-909-8

Number of Pages : 503

Type: Slides

Name: slides

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Available on Ufora : Yes

Additional information: slides in powerpoint format available via Ufora, limited printing costs if students want to print a physical copy

References

Any good basic textbook on economics

Course content-related study coaching

Students can always address questions to the professor (or assistant) in class or by E-mail. If desired by the students one or two collective sessions on submitted questions can be organized.

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 of the examination mark