

## 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**

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

**crdts**

5

**offering**

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