

Università degli Studi di Macerata
Economics - A.A. 2022/2023
Dott. Mattia Tassinari

ECONOMICS
Course introduction

Welcome!

You are the people who are going to carry on what others have started. You are sitting where others have been sitting, and when the others will be gone, you will devote your care to those things that before you others have thought are important.

Those who preceded you have adopted all policies they pleased, but how they will be carried out depends on you. You will take the direction of your cities, universities, and companies.

The fate of humanity is in your hands.

[Adapted from Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of the United States of America (1861-1865)]

Introduce yourself!



- ... a few words about who you are, where you come from, what school you attended ...
- ... what is your idea of the Economics course
- what would you like to do in the future and what job do you have in mind ...

General information

Course: Economics, 9 cfu (45 hours), L-14

Lecturer: Mattia Tassinari

Mail: mattia.tassinari@unimc.it

Skype: mattia_tassinari

Personal Teams: <https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19:gBgHFDpabXefUkcJOJIKJJFkYgd9t13k19riRQIhcXw1@thread.tacv2/1631974284198?context=%7B%22Tid%22:%221aceb148-a22a-49fb-b0f8-18319c256a74%22,%22Oid%22:%2243c8c642-e43c-4333-b95e-f69002507dcc%22%7D>

Room: Aula B

Course Program: see course website:
<https://docenti.unimc.it/mattia.tassinari/courses/2022/26397>

Office hours: always available **at the end of the lectures** or **by appointment** on Skype/Teams, Office (room 107, floor -1).

Schedule for attending students a.y. 2022/23

Day	Time	Hours	Topic	Reference
Tue 20 sept	10,00 - 13,00	3	Course introduction	ch. 1
Tue 20 sept	14,00 - 16,00	2	Introductory concepts	ch. 1 and 2
Tue 27 sept	10,00 - 13,00	3	The market: definition, demand, supply, equilibrium	ch. 3
Tue 27 sept	14,00 - 16,00	2	Exercises market supply and demand	other material
Tue 04 oct	10,00 - 13,00	3	Introduction to macroeconomics	ch. 19.A
Tue 04 oct	14,00 - 16,00	2	National accounts	ch. 20
Tue 11 oct	10,00 - 13,00	3	The aggregate supply and demand (AD-AS model)	ch. 19.B, 22.A, 22.B
Tue 11 oct	14,00 - 16,00	2	Exercises aggregate supply and demand	other material
Tue 18 oct	10,00 - 13,00	3	Unemployment	ch. 29
Tue 18 oct	14,00 - 16,00	2	Inflation	ch. 30
Tue 25 oct	10,00 - 13,00	3	Money and the financial system	ch. 23
Tue 25 oct	14,00 - 16,00	2	Monetary policy and the economy	ch. 24
Tue 01 nov				
Tue 08 nov	10,00 - 13,00	3	First intermediate test	
Tue 08 nov	14,00 - 16,00	2	Production and business organization	ch. 6
Tue 15 nov	10,00 - 13,00	3	Analysis of costs	ch. 7
Tue 15 nov	14,00 - 16,00	2	Perfect competition	ch. 8
Tue 22 nov	10,00 - 13,00	3	Monopoly, Oligopoly and monopolistic competition	ch. 9 and 10
Tue 22 nov	14,00 - 16,00	2	Industrial policy	other material
Tue 29 nov	10,00 - 13,00	3	Case studies (USA, China, War, Robotization, ...)	other material
Tue 29 nov	14,00 - 16,00	2	Case studies + Work group presentation	other material
?	?	2	Second intermediate test	

Notes for attending students

- ❖ Changes on the course's program are introduced for attending students with respect to the **reference material for the exam**, including the replacement of specific parts of the textbook adopted with relevant papers or readings, as well as **exercises and group work**.
- ❖ Attending students may prepare for the exam during the period of lecturing and have the opportunity to take 2 intermediate tests during the lecturing period.
- ❖ Attending students must ask for being included in the list of attending students at the end of the lecture (**before Tuesday 25 October**)
- ❖ Check always for any notices on the course website

Attendance of the lectures

- ❖ **It is an opportunity for discussion**, where you have the chance to express your opinion, listen to that of others, ask for clarifications and insights.
- ❖ Interaction is very welcome and encouraged, but with **inclusive language**: it conveys respect to all people, is sensitive to differences and promotes equal opportunities, makes no assumptions about the beliefs or behaviors of others, contains nothing that may imply that one individual is superior to another for any reason.
- ❖ The general **rules of common sense apply**: do not use smartphones ... no WhatsApp etc. ... PCs are only allowed for taking notes ...



References for the study of attending students

- **The lesson (notes):** does not always follow the pages of the manual, it serves for interaction, exchange of ideas, clarifications and insights into the course contents
- **The slides (available for 1 week on the webpage of the course):** they are a track, they are not a substitute for the lesson and the manual. I will upload the slides the night before the lesson, so that on the day of the lesson you can have them.
- **The manual:** complements the lesson and slides with the pages indicated in the lesson => **Paul A. Samuelson and William D. Nordhaus Economics McGraw Hill/Irwin, New York, 2010**, Available also online at: <http://pombo.free.fr/samunord19.pdf>
- **Any further reading** indicated in class
- **Individual (or even collective) meeting by appointment:** take the opportunity to clarify your ideas!

How do you prepare for the exam?

ATTENDING STUDENTS

- ❖ **Continuously and actively** attend the class
- ❖ **Weekly**, study your **notes** and discuss them with some other ("new") students
- ❖ **Weekly**, study the pages of the **handbook** and other **reference texts** indicated in class
- ❖ If necessary, request for **meeting with the lecturer**
- ❖ Take the **intermediate tests**

NON-ATTENDING STUDENTS

- ❖ They are those who decide **not to follow regularly in class**, they prepare for the exam on the **handbook** and attend the exam only during the **exam sections**.
- ❖ **Written exam** (multiple choice and open questions) + **oral test** (compulsory), during the exam sessions.
- ❖ **PROGRAM**: chapters of the textbook adopted 1, 2, 3; 6, 7, 8, 9, 10; 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 29, 30.

Intermediate tests (for attending students only)

For attending students it is possible to take **2 intermediate tests (written) during the lesson period (8 November; ?)**, with multiple choice questions and open questions on the topics indicated during the lessons.

Variations to the program for attending students are communicated in class.

If successful in both intermediate tests, the exam is considered passed. The exam grade is the average of the 2 marks taken in the intermediate tests .

Those who are not satisfied with the grade or do not pass one of the intermediate tests, have the possibility to take the exam again during the **exam sessions** (multiple choice and open questions + oral test), **on the entire program indicated for attending students** up to the **June session**.

A chance: a team work

- ❖ **3/4 students** decide (spontaneously) to form a "team" and ask the teacher to assign **an economic article** (on a topic complementary to those addressed in class). A student can participate in only one team.
- ❖ The team reads the article, tries to understand, independently searches for the missing notions and discusses the contents. The goal is to independently prepare a **presentation for the class** (10/15 minutes maximum, **supported by ppt**) where the group explains the article to the rest of the class and answers their questions.
- ❖ Based on the difficulty of the article, the quality of the presentation in the classroom, the team may be able to **earn up to 3 points** more than the average of the two intermediate tests (if passed) or more than the exam grade passed in the exam sessions **up to June session**.