Course guide
270014 - EEE - Business and Economic Environment

Unit in charge: Barcelona School of Informatics
Teaching unit: 732 - OE - Department of Management.
Degree: BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN INFORMATICS ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2010). (Compulsory subject).
Academic year: 2022  ECTS Credits: 6.0  Languages: Catalan, Spanish

LECTURER

Coordinating lecturer: JOSE MARIA CABRÉ GARCIA - JOAN CARLES GIL MARTIN

Others:
Primer quadrimestre:
JOSE MARIA CABRÉ GARCIA - 10, 40
JOAN CARLES GIL MARTIN - 40
JOAN SUBIRATS SOLER - 10

PRIOR SKILLS

Initially, the development of this course doesn't require previous skills.

DEGREE COMPETENCES TO WHICH THE SUBJECT CONTRIBUTES

Specific:
CT2.3. To design, develop, select and evaluate computer applications, systems and services and, at the same time, ensure its reliability, security and quality in function of ethical principles and the current legislation and normative.
CT3.1. To understand and explain reasonably the basic economical concepts, the objectives and the instruments of economical politics and their influence in the economical activity.
CT3.2. To know and describe the main processes of the functional areas of a company and the existent links between them, which make possible the coordination and integration in a group.
CT3.3. To be able to find and interpret basic information for evaluating the economic environment of the organization.
CT3.4. To know the basic financial concepts which allow valuing the costs and benefits of a project or different alternatives, monitor a budget, control the cost, etc.
CT3.5. To identify the use possibilities and benefits which can be derived from an application in the different business software typologies and existent ICT services.
CT3.6. To demonstrate knowledge about the ethical dimension of the company: in general, the social and corporative responsibility and, concretely, the civil and professional responsibilities of the informatics engineer.
CT3.7. To demonstrate knowledge about the normative and regulation of informatics in a national, European and international scope.
CT8.1. To identify current and emerging technologies and evaluate if they are applicable, to satisfy the users needs.

Generical:
G1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: to know and understand the organization of a company and the sciences which govern its activity; capacity to understand the labour rules and the relation between planning, industrial and business strategies, quality and benefit. To develop creativity, entrepreneur spirit and innovation tendency.
TEACHING METHODOLOGY

It consists of a mix of lectures, reading various documents, preparation of some "Continuous Assessment Practices" (PECs) and debate sessions, where the topics studied until that day are discussed and assessed.

Each topic is accompanied by explanations from the teacher and documentation to study and work; among the documents are notes, videos, readings, case studies, economical press articles, and, what we call, "Continuous Assessment Practices" (PECs). The student performs PECs in group or not, outside of class time and shall submit, individually, through "Racó of the subject", before a certain date.

Throughout the course there are 6 control-debate sessions where students can express their concerns and thoughts on the matter seen until then, and the teacher can ask, orally or by writing, about this and about PECs. In each session only are evaluated, obviously, students who participate on their own initiative or those who are asked directly by the teacher. Deliveries of PECs and the answers to the "direct questions" will be decisive for the mark of the course. The voluntary participation can only improve the mark, that is never adversely affect the final grade. However, the absence of "voluntary participation" will do.

The teacher, before informing students can devote some time to ask questions during any class session and will be evaluated as theoretical "direct questions".
LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THE SUBJECT

1. Students must acquire critical thinking that would be allowed to find out what the best economic policy to an adverse situation or not in an economic system and, simultaneously, to understand why we reached this critical situation.

2. El alumno ha de ser capaz de demostrar conocimiento general del concepto de empresa y de organización i del rol del empresario, y clasificar una organización empresarial según los diferentes criterios, en especial, saber identificar las formas jurídicas más adecuadas.

3. El alumno ha de conocer el funcionamiento de la empresa como sistema, los diferentes subsistemas o áreas funcionales, y sus objetivos e identificar los modelos de organización aplicables.

4. El alumno ha de ser capaz de demostrar conocimientos generales del concepto de empresa y de organización i del rol del empresario, y clasificar una organización empresarial según los diferentes criterios, en especial, saber identificar las formas jurídicas más adecuadas.

STUDY LOAD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hours large group</td>
<td>45,0</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours medium group</td>
<td>13,5</td>
<td>9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guided activities</td>
<td>7,5</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self study</td>
<td>84,0</td>
<td>56.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total learning time: 150 h

CONTENTS

PART 1 - ECONOMICS
1.1 KEY ECONOMICS CONCEPTS

Description:
This topic introduces students to the economic world and economic policy, through the definitions of concepts, like inflation, recession, unemployment, active population, rate of inflation, and the analysis of the main economic policy objectives such as economic growth, price stability, efficiency, equitable distribution of income, full employment, etc..

1.2 SPECIALIZATION, EXCHANGE AND MONEY

Description:
This topic introduce how specialization take us to efficiency and, in turn, causes the need for the exchange. When the exchange is necessary, barter is inefficient and appears, naturally, the money. We analises the role money plays in any economic system, distinguishing which are the main variables that determine the well functioning of a monetary system and reflects on what happens when these conditions are broken.

1.3 SPANISH TAX SYSTEM

Description:
This topic analises the role the state plays in an economic system, studying the guidelines for governing a tax system, the characteristics of the main taxes of the Spanish economy and the Spanish tax system in general, and introduces us to concepts like State budget deficit and public debt.

1.4 THE CALCULATION OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

Description:
This topic explains how to compare and measure wealth, welfare and development of countries and how ratios, which are used to compare countries, have evolved; while it gives us tools to know how to interpret and be critical of the economic indicators. This lesson finishes talking about the importance of the informal economy.

1.5 INTRODUCTION TO THE FISCAL POLICY AND MONETARY POLICY

Description:
This topic introduces the concept of the economic cycle. We review the history of the two major schools of economic thought in the Western world: the non-interventionist school (also known as Classical) and the interventionist school (or Keynesian). Through the analysis of New York stock exchange crack in 1929, brings us closer to understanding the functioning of markets stock and common and divergent points in the arguments of both schools.

1.6 FISCAL POLICY

Description:
This issue introduces us to Keynesian thought. Keynes rejected the classical thesis of non-intervention economy. Keynes argues that in times of economic crisis the state has the capacity and the responsibility to intervene in the economy through fiscal policy. Create a model which show that the economy can be in equilibrium with a situation of mass unemployment; and will explain us, the state, through tax policy, increasing spending or decreasing taxes, can catalyze again economic growth.
1.6 BIS ANNEX TO THE FISCAL POLICY: THE PHILLIPS CURVE

Description:
In this Annex, Phillips empirically examines the Keynesian theory. Phillips explores the Keynesian thesis. Try to prove that the world is empirically Keynesian. We will see, also, from the 70s of last century, the world stopped being Keynesian.

1.7 THE MONETARY POLICY

Description:
This topic is an analysis of monetarist thought and how it works monetary policy. The monetarist, as heirs of classical thought, think the state should not intervene in economic activity. They defend in any case, the use of monetary policy. Monetary policy is an economic policy that uses the amount of money as a control variable to ensure and maintain economic stability. We will learn what are the instruments available to inject or withdraw money from an economic system.

PART 2 - BUSINESS

2.1 INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS

Description:
Introduction to the concept of enterprise and the role of the employer. Criteria for the classification of different types of businesses, legal forms and family business. Description of the company as a system, its subsystems and models and the basic criteria of organization.

2.2 MANAGEMENT, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INTRA-ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Description:
Presentation of the dimensions of the management process: influence, strategy, planning, personnel management, control and decision. Clarify the ethical dimension of the company and its management regarding the influence with stakeholders. Emprendimiento e intra-emprendimiento: contextualización, Modelo de Porter y Business Canvas.

2.3 HUMAN RESOURCES

Description:
Describe the importance and objectives of the Human Resources Department, as well as the main processes of this functional area.

2.4 FINANCE

Description:
Description of the objectives of the finance Department as well as the main processes of this functional area in the short and long term, as well as funding sources. Description of accounting as an information system and as a process and the basic accounting concepts to analyze the economic viability of a project, the economic impact of a decision and track a budget.
2.5 SALES AND MARKETING

Description:
Description of the objectives of the Sales and Marketing Department and of the main concepts such as market, demand, competition, customer behavior and the main methods for market research. Description of the marketing tools and their use to define the marketing mix.

2.6 OPERATIONS

Description:
Description of the objectives of the Operations Department, as well as the main processes of this functional area.

ACTIVITIES

Unit 1.1: "Basic economic concepts"

Description:
Students, also actively participate in class, you must prepare the case, read the proposed articles and go to work the "Continuous assessment practices" (PECs)

Specific objectives:
19

Full-or-part-time: 14h
Theory classes: 6h
Self study: 8h

Unit 1.2: "Specialization, Exchange and Money"

Description:
Students must read and prepare the discussion and debate of three cases that will help him enter into the world of money.

Specific objectives:
13

Full-or-part-time: 5h 30m
Theory classes: 2h
Self study: 3h 30m

Continuous Assessment Practice 1

Description:
It consists of a group of answers to questions that refer to topics 1.1 and 1.2, and "n" articles of the document "economy lectures". This practice can be answered in groups but individually delivered. During the assessment, only the delivery of individual PEC is taken into account.

Specific objectives:
13, 19

Full-or-part-time: 3h 30m
Guided activities: 0h 30m
Self study: 3h
### Debate i Control about Continuous Assessment Practice 1

**Description:**
It consists of a control debate on the subject of topics 1.1 and 1.2, in which only the students involved are evaluated.

**Specific objectives:**
13, 19

**Full-or-part-time:** 2h
Guided activities: 2h

### Unit 1.3: "Taxes in Spain"

**Description:**
Students must watch a video related to the unit 1.3, read the notes and articles related to this topic and actively participate in class.

**Specific objectives:**
16

**Full-or-part-time:** 8h
Theory classes: 3h
Self study: 5h

### Unit 1.4: "The measurement of GDP"

**Description:**
Through the study of this topic 1.4, actively attendance in class and completion of PEC2, students will learn about the relativity of economic data and which rates we use to measure the welfare of countries.

**Specific objectives:**
15

**Full-or-part-time:** 8h
Theory classes: 3h
Self study: 5h

### Continuous Assessment Practice 2

**Description:**
It consists of a group of answers to questions that refer to topics 1.3 and 1.4, and several articles of the document "economy lectures". This practice can be answered in groups but individually delivered. During the assessment, only the delivery of individual PEC is taken into account.

**Specific objectives:**
15, 16

**Full-or-part-time:** 3h 30m
Guided activities: 0h 30m
Self study: 3h
### Debate and Control about Continuous Assessment Practice 2

**Description:**
It consists of a control debate on the subject of topics 1.3 and 1.4, in which only the students involved are evaluated.

**Specific objectives:**
15, 16

**Full-or-part-time:** 2h
Guided activities: 2h

### Unit 1.5: "Introduction to Fiscal Policy and Monetary Policy"

**Description:**
Students, by studying the notes of the subject and the "Economy lectures", along with active participation in class, must assimilate the main points of the two main economic thought: Keynesian and classical. In addition, the student must understand the reasons for the necessity or not of the state intervention in economic activity.

**Specific objectives:**
17

**Full-or-part-time:** 11h
Theory classes: 4h
Self study: 7h

### Unit 1.6: "Fiscal Policy"

**Description:**
The student, through the teacher’s explanations in class, the notes of the subject, the proposed readings and the completion of the PEC 3, must assimilate the main tools of Keynesian fiscal policy.

**Specific objectives:**
1, 17

**Related competencies:**
G1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: to know and understand the organization of a company and the sciences which govern its activity; capacity to understand the labour rules and the relation between planning, industrial and business strategies, quality and benefit. To develop creativity, entrepreneur spirit and innovation tendency.

**Full-or-part-time:** 8h
Theory classes: 4h
Self study: 4h
Unit 1.7: "Monetary Policy"

Description:
The student, by the teacher's explanations in class, the notes of the subject, some readings, the completion of the PEC 3 and working on a simulator of economic policy, must assimilate the main instruments of monetary policy.

Specific objectives:
1, 13, 17

Related competencies:
G1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: to know and understand the organization of a company and the sciences which govern its activity; capacity to understand the labour rules and the relation between planning, industrial and business strategies, quality and benefit. To develop creativity, entrepreneur spirit and innovation tendency.

Full-or-part-time: 5h
Theory classes: 2h
Self study: 3h

Continuous Assessment Practice 3

Description:
It consists of a group of answers to questions that refer to topics 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7, and several articles of the document "economy lectures". This practice can be answered in groups but individually delivered. During the assessment, only the delivery of individual PEC is taken into account.

Specific objectives:
1, 13, 17

Related competencies:
G1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: to know and understand the organization of a company and the sciences which govern its activity; capacity to understand the labour rules and the relation between planning, industrial and business strategies, quality and benefit. To develop creativity, entrepreneur spirit and innovation tendency.

Full-or-part-time: 4h 30m
Guided activities: 0h 30m
Self study: 4h

Debate and Control about Continuous Assessment Practice 3

Description:
It consists of a control and debate on the subject of topics 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7, in which only the students involved are evaluated.

Specific objectives:
1, 13, 17

Related competencies:
G1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: to know and understand the organization of a company and the sciences which govern its activity; capacity to understand the labour rules and the relation between planning, industrial and business strategies, quality and benefit. To develop creativity, entrepreneur spirit and innovation tendency.

Full-or-part-time: 2h
Guided activities: 2h
### Unit 2.1 "Introduction to Business"

**Description:**
Students also actively participate in class, must read, view or work on the teaching materials and work on the "Continuos assesment practices" (PECs).

**Specific objectives:**
2, 3, 4, 14

**Related competencies:**
G1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: to know and understand the organization of a company and the sciences which govern its activity; capacity to understand the labour rules and the relation between planning, industrial and business strategies, quality and benefit. To develop creativity, entrepreneur spirit and innovation tendency.

**Full-or-part-time:** 5h 30m
- Theory classes: 2h
- Self study: 3h 30m

### Item 2.2 "Management, Entrepreneurship and Intra-Entrepreneurship"

**Description:**
Students also actively participate in class, must read, view or work on the teaching materials and work on the "Continuos assesment exercises" (PECs).

**Specific objectives:**
5, 6

**Related competencies:**
G1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: to know and understand the organization of a company and the sciences which govern its activity; capacity to understand the labour rules and the relation between planning, industrial and business strategies, quality and benefit. To develop creativity, entrepreneur spirit and innovation tendency.

**Full-or-part-time:** 10h
- Theory classes: 2h
- Laboratory classes: 2h
- Self study: 6h

### Item 2.3 "Human Resources"

**Description:**
Students also actively participate in class, must read, view or work on the teaching materials and work on the "Continuos assesment practices" (PECs).

**Specific objectives:**
7

**Related competencies:**
G1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: to know and understand the organization of a company and the sciences which govern its activity; capacity to understand the labour rules and the relation between planning, industrial and business strategies, quality and benefit. To develop creativity, entrepreneur spirit and innovation tendency.

**Full-or-part-time:** 5h
- Theory classes: 2h
- Self study: 3h
### Continuous Assessment Practice 4

**Description:**
It consists in studying the teaching materials that relate to issues 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 and in response to several questions of these issues apply to the case Quick & Fresh. This practice can be answered in groups but individually delivered. During the assessment, only the delivery of individual PEC is taken into account.

**Specific objectives:**
2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 14

**Related competencies:**
G1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: to know and understand the organization of a company and the sciences which govern its activity; capacity to understand the labour rules and the relation between planning, industrial and business strategies, quality and benefit. To develop creativity, entrepreneur spirit and innovation tendency.

**Full-or-part-time:** 2h
Self study: 2h

### Debate and Control about Continuous Assessment Practice 4

**Description:**
It consists of a session of debate and questions on the subject of topics 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 and on the issues of Quick & Fresh case, where only students who are questioned or involved are evaluated.

**Specific objectives:**
2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 14

**Related competencies:**
G1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: to know and understand the organization of a company and the sciences which govern its activity; capacity to understand the labour rules and the relation between planning, industrial and business strategies, quality and benefit. To develop creativity, entrepreneur spirit and innovation tendency.

**Full-or-part-time:** 2h
Guided activities: 2h

### Item 2.4 "Finance"

**Description:**
Students also actively participate in class, must read, view or work on the teaching materials and work on the "Continuous assessment practices" (PECs).

**Specific objectives:**
8, 9

**Related competencies:**
G1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: to know and understand the organization of a company and the sciences which govern its activity; capacity to understand the labour rules and the relation between planning, industrial and business strategies, quality and benefit. To develop creativity, entrepreneur spirit and innovation tendency.

**Full-or-part-time:** 20h
Theory classes: 6h 30m
Laboratory classes: 1h 30m
Self study: 12h
Continuous Assessment Practice 5

Description:
It consists in studying the teaching materials that relate to issue 2.4 and in response to several questions of this issue apply to the case Quick & Fresh. This practice can be answered in groups but individually delivered. During the assessment, only the delivery of individual PEC is taken into account.

Specific objectives:
8, 9

Related competencies:
G1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: to know and understand the organization of a company and the sciences which govern its activity; capacity to understand the labour rules and the relation between planning, industrial and business strategies, quality and benefit. To develop creativity, entrepreneur spirit and innovation tendency.

Full-or-part-time: 2h
Self study: 2h

Debate and Control about Continuous Assessment Practice 5

Description:
It consists of a session of debate and questions on the subject of topic 2.4 and on the issues of Quick & Fresh case, where only students who are questioned or involved are evaluated.

Specific objectives:
8, 9

Related competencies:
G1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: to know and understand the organization of a company and the sciences which govern its activity; capacity to understand the labour rules and the relation between planning, industrial and business strategies, quality and benefit. To develop creativity, entrepreneur spirit and innovation tendency.

Full-or-part-time: 2h
Guided activities: 2h

Item 2.5 "Sales and Marketing"

Description:
Students also actively participate in class, must read, view or work on the teaching materials and work on the "Continuos assessment practices" (PECs).

Specific objectives:
10, 11

Related competencies:
G1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: to know and understand the organization of a company and the sciences which govern its activity; capacity to understand the labour rules and the relation between planning, industrial and business strategies, quality and benefit. To develop creativity, entrepreneur spirit and innovation tendency.

Full-or-part-time: 10h
Theory classes: 4h
Self study: 6h
Item 2.6 "Operations"

Description:
Students also actively participate in class, must read, view or work on the teaching materials and work on the "Continuous assessment practices" (PECs).

Specific objectives:
12

Related competencies:
G1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: to know and understand the organization of a company and the sciences which govern its activity; capacity to understand the labour rules and the relation between planning, industrial and business strategies, quality and benefit. To develop creativity, entrepreneur spirit and innovation tendency.

Full-or-part-time: 4h
Theory classes: 2h
Self study: 2h

Continuous Assessment Pratice 6

Description:
It consists in studying the teaching materials that relate to issues 2.5 and 2.6 and in response to several questions of these issues apply to the case Munich. This practice can be answered in groups but individually delivered. During the assessment, only the delivery of individual PEC is taken into account.

Specific objectives:
10, 11, 12

Related competencies:
G1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: to know and understand the organization of a company and the sciences which govern its activity; capacity to understand the labour rules and the relation between planning, industrial and business strategies, quality and benefit. To develop creativity, entrepreneur spirit and innovation tendency.

Full-or-part-time: 2h
Self study: 2h

Debate and Control Continuous Assessment Practice 6

Description:
It consists of a session of debate and questions on the subject of topics 2.5 and 2.6 and on the issues of Munich case, where only students who are questioned or involved are evaluated.

Specific objectives:
10, 11, 12

Related competencies:
G1. ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION: to know and understand the organization of a company and the sciences which govern its activity; capacity to understand the labour rules and the relation between planning, industrial and business strategies, quality and benefit. To develop creativity, entrepreneur spirit and innovation tendency.

Full-or-part-time: 2h
Guided activities: 2h
Conferences

Description:
Conferences

Full-or-part-time: 6h 30m
Guided activities: 6h 30m

GRADING SYSTEM

The assessment will be based on the following items:

- PEC1
- PEC2
- PEC3
- PEC4
- PEC5
- PEC6

Continuous Assessment System (14 weeks)

Continuous Assessment Grade:

\[
(CAG) = \frac{1}{6}PEC1 + \frac{1}{6}PEC2 + \frac{1}{6}PEC3 + \frac{1}{6}PEC4 + \frac{1}{6}PEC5 + \frac{1}{6}PEC6
\]

PECs involve the development of practices outside the classroom and in classroom answer to a series of questions about the work done in class and view the matter until then. Answer this questions requires had delivered the practice. Failure to deliver the practice on time entails a penalty of 1 point out of 10 in the PEC control note.

Grade Generic Skill: Innovation and entrepreneurship (level 1)

The grade from generic skill will be an adjustment of the grades from the second part of the course (business part), which is translated as follows:

\[
GGS = \text{Grade from Generic Skill } = \frac{1}{3}PEC4 + \frac{1}{3}PEC5 + \frac{1}{3}PEC6
\]

- A in the case of NCT >= 8,5
- B in the case of NCT >= 6,5 < 8,5
- C in the case of NCT >= 5 < 6,5
- D in the case of NCT < 5

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Basic:
- Cañabate, A. Aplicaciones y servicios TIC para la empresa.
RESOURCES

Hyperlink:
- http://datos.bancomundial.org/
- http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/euro.html
- http://bde.es/infoest/indeco.htm
- http://www.ine.es/
- http://www.ecb.eu/
- http://europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat/
- http://www.meh.es/
- http://www.e-tributs.net/
- http://www.imf.org/