

Department of Economics

H.Dip.Econ.Sc. Stream B

Course Descriptions

SEMESTER 2

EC363 Econometrics

The aim of this course is to give students a practical introduction to some of the main methods used by economists to quantify relationships between economic variables. Using appropriate software and real data sets, theory learned in the classroom is quickly put into a practical context. Towards the end of the course students build their own econometric model.

EC385 Advanced Economic Theory

This course treats topics in economic theory from a more advanced point of view. The focus of the microeconomic part of this course will be on a broader view of markets and human behaviour. More specifically, the implications for efficiency and welfare of market power, missing markets, imperfect information and bounded rationality will be addressed. Macroeconomic topics include advanced treatment of consumption and investment expenditure, monetary policy and economic growth.

EC386 Public Economics

The aim of this module is to introduce students to the role that public sector plays in influencing resource allocation in a market economy. We will focus on the set of normative rules to guide public sector decision-making using tools of modern welfare economics. On the other hand, we will also show that public economies involve the positive study of how the activities of government (for example, taxation, transfers, expenditures) influence resource allocation, relative forces and welfare in the economy.

EC416 Research Paper II

The research papers focus on developing the student's ability to understand economic reasoning, to select a research topic and discover what has been written on this topic already, to access and analyse economic data and to write and present a research project.

EC357 Development Economics

This course introduces the student to the major theories of economic development. The central concern is the analysis of factors contributing to economic development in general, but in particular in low-income countries, primarily located in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The complex economic interrelationships in the process of economic development are analysed, including the inter-sectoral and spatial dimensions, along with the impact of these economic processes on the larger social and political domains.

EC378 Economics of Technological Change

Technological change poses challenges both to societies which experience it and to social scientists who seek to understand it. This course evaluates the contribution economics can make in modelling science, innovation and technology, with a particular concern to inform public policy. The empirical content of this course is international, with a focus on, but not limited to, the economics of information and communications technologies.

EC362 Economics of Financial Markets

This course introduces students to the key concepts and current issues in financial economics. To reflect the diversity of the financial services sector, this course covers all the important financial markets: stock; bond; foreign exchange; and derivatives. Particular emphasis is placed on linking the financial theory to the major global economic and business stories of recent years, for example, the rise and fall of world stock prices; the volatility of the euro-dollar exchange rate; and how billions of euro were lost in derivatives-related trading.

EC388 Environmental & Natural Resource Economics

This course looks at the relationship between economic activity and the natural environment. It deals with such topics as the exploitation of natural resources, environmental pollution and the natural environment as a source of enjoyment. It also discusses the notion of sustainable development.

***Please note that all of the optional modules may not be available every year.**