



## ***Second Year Course Descriptions for B.Sc. in Financial Mathematics and Economics***

***This document only contains descriptions of the economics courses taught in this programme.***

### ***EC215 Microeconomics***

This is an intermediate microeconomics course dealing with the theory and application of microeconomics. Topics covered include consumer behaviour, utility theory, applications of consumer theory, production and costs, market structure, theories of pricing, game theory, general equilibrium theory, externalities and public goods, economics of information and welfare economics. We review the neo-classical and non neo-classical theories of consumer behaviour and their implications for the government's policies, where the latter are assumed to have as their objective the welfare of its citizens.

### ***EC217 Macroeconomics***

This is an intermediate macroeconomics course dealing with the theory and practice of macroeconomics. It builds on the concepts and principles covered in 1st Year Economics. The objective of the course is to understand the core principles of macroeconomic theory and to learn how these basic principles can be applied to various policy issues, both domestically and in an international setting.

### ***EC247 Introduction to Financial Economics***

The aim of this course is to provide a general introduction to financial institutions, markets and instruments. The course examines the roles of the principal types of financial institutions in the retail, wholesale and international banking, building society, and finance house sectors; the principal investment institutions, the basic structure and operation of the principal Irish and global financial markets: equity, bond, money, foreign exchange, futures and option markets. This course is also designed to introduce the basic principles of financial economics by examining the relationship between finance and the real resources and objectives of an organization; agency theory; and the theory of the maximization of shareholder wealth. Finally, the course provides an introduction to investment analysis by developing an understanding of the economic characteristics of the principal forms of financial instrument issues or used by companies and the ways in which they may be issued and valued; and the characteristics and uses of financial futures, options, and swaps.