

MICROECONOMICS

Degree in Finance

Code: 12511

Main Scientific Area: Economics

Lecturer: Cândida Sofia Ferreira Machado

Language of Instruction: Portuguese

Regime: S1

Contact Hours: 60h Total Workload: 108h

ECTS: 6,0

Objectives

The main goal of the curricular unit is to give the students an articulated understanding of the basic concepts of the microeconomic theory. Following the presentation of several basic concepts in the economic domain, fundamental topics of the microeconomic will be discussed. The market mechanism of supply and demand, the behavior of individual economic agents and their interaction in the markets, and market structures are among the topics that will be analyzed.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the curricular unit, students should have knowledge of the basic microeconomic concepts and dominate the central issues of the contemporary microeconomic debate.

Course Contents

I. Introduction to Economics 1 What is economics? 2 Thinking like an economist II. Supply and Demand: How markets work 3 The market forces of supply and demand 4 Elasticity and its applications 5 Background to demand: Consumer choices 6 Background to supply: Firms in competitive markets III. Markets, efficiency and welfare 7 Consumers, producers and the efficiency of markets 8 Supply, demand and government policies IV. Firm behaviour and market structures 9 Firms' production decisions 10 Market structures I: Monopoly 11 Market structures II: Monopolistic competition 12 Market structures III: Oligopoly

Recommended Bibliography

Frank, R. (2014) Microeconomics and Behavior, 9th edition, McGraw-Hill

Mankiw, G. and Taylor, M. (2020) Economics, 5th edition, Cengage Learning

Mankiw, G. and Taylor, M. (2023) Microeconomics, 6th edition, Cengage Learning

Samuelson, P. and Nordhaus, W. (2009) Economics, 19th edition. McGraw-Hill

Learning and Teaching Methods

The syllabus was defined based on the objectives of the course and on the skills that should be acquired by students. The consistency of the course contents with the objectives of the study unit is demonstrated below. For a better understanding of the issues addressed at the level of the microeconomic domain, the course begins with an introduction to the basic concepts of the economic theory. These concepts are included in part I. of the syllabus. The understanding of the behavior of the main economic agents and their interaction in the markets requires the analysis of the market based on the mechanism of demand and supply, the study of the theory of consumer behavior and the

theory of the firm, and knowledge of market structures. These issues are discussed in parts II. to IV. of the syllabus.

Assessment Methods

Degree in Business Management

The evaluation regime for the curricular unit is continuous. The evaluation is based on two tests. The first test weights 30% and the second test weights 70%. There is no minimum grade requirement. A minimum final grade of 9,5 out of 20 is required for approval in the curricular unit. There will be no oral exam.

In the exams period, the exam will be the only element considered (100%).

Degree in Finance

The assessment methodology will be as follows:

1. To students enrolled in all the Curricular Units (CU) of the 1st year, for the first time:

Final Classification CU = 85% Assessment CU + 15% Project, in Continuous Assessment and 1st semester Examination Period (the grade of the Project to be considered is that obtained in continuous assessment).

Final Classification CU = 100% Assessment CU, in the Special and Exceptional Period of Examination and Grade Improvement.

Validity of the Project: Continuous assessment and 1st semester Examination Period of the academic year in which it was performed.

Assessment of CU (50h): 85% - Learning assessment will be done with two assessment tests, worth 50% each. In this sense, the classification obtained by the student will result from the following formula:

Assessment CU = Test 1 × 50% + Test 2 × 50%

Project (10h): 15% - The project is mandatory, as well as the attendance to Skills classes and the classes (from 03.01.2024 to 13.01.2024). Groups must be formed by 14.10.2023.

2. For Students who are not enrolled in all 1st year CU, for the first time, the Evaluation Methodology referred in point 1 applies. However, instead of the project, these students must do a substitute work. These students must communicate to the teacher of the CU, until 14.10.2023, that they will perform the substitute work, so the teacher can define the groups and the topic of the work. In the absence of communication, it is assumed that the student does not intend to do the substitute work, being automatically failed in the continuous assessment.

3. For students with student-worker status issued by the academic services the Evaluation Methodology referred in point 1 applies. However, these students may choose to do the project or the substitute work. The option must be communicated until 14.10.2023 to the teacher of the CU. In the absence of communication, it is assumed that the student does not intend to do the project/substitute work, being automatically failed in the continuous assessment.

4. For students that do not do the project/substitute work, the following rules apply:

· Continuous Assessment: the student has missed an element of assessment and thus the Final Classification CU=

Failed;

· 1st semester Examination Period: zero is considered in the component of the evaluation concerning the project/substitute work, so Final Classification CU = 85% Assessment CU.