



Course presentation

Prof. Borja Petit
Economic Environment
CUNEF Universidad
Academic year: 2025/2026

What is this course about?

- The main goal of this course is to introduce you to economic analysis and reasoning.
- More specifically, by the end of the course you should be able to:
 - Read critically economic reports.
 - Build your own (informed) opinion about economic debates.
 - Understand pros and con of different alternatives in economic policy.
- This course is not about becoming expert in economics, but to become a professional (and citizen) capable of thinking about economic issues critically.

Course content

- The course is organized in three blocks
 1. Microeconomic analysis: intro + two topics
 2. Macroeconomic analysis: intro + two topics
 3. Economic policy: 4 topics
- We have 14 sessions of 1h 30min organized as follows:
 - 10 sessions for theory (one topic per day).
 - 4 sessions for midterms.

Course content

Microeconomic analysis

1. Thinking like an economist
2. Supply and demand analysis
3. Market structure

Macroeconomic analysis

4. Measuring the economy
5. Economic growth
6. Business cycles

Economic policy

7. The labor market
8. Fiscal policy
9. Monetary policy
10. International trade

Course grading

- As in any other course in CUNEF Universidad, the final grade is the average of:
 - 60% **Final exam**, which will be comprehensive, and will consist in multiple choice as well as short theory questions.
 - To be able to do the final exam, a minimum attendance of 80% is required.
 - You need a minimum grade of 5 in the final exam to pass the course
 - 40% **Continuous evaluation**, which consists in 4 midterm exams with multiple choice questions. The worst exam will be excluded from the grade.
 - If you cannot attend to one of the midterms, that would count as a zero and the grade will be computed with the other three.
 - The date of the midterms cannot be modified.

Course organization

- **Materials.** Everything will be available in Canvas, including the slides for each of the 10 topics:
 - Slides will be available in advance so that you can print them if you wish.
- **Communications.** It is very important that you activate Canvas' notifications:
 - Whatever is said there, will be consider known by everyone.
- **Office hours.** If you want to have some office hours, drop me an email (or a message though Canvas) and we'll arrange a day/time; I'll be happy to help.

Some rules

- Attendance is mandatory and I will not "justify" any absence, including exam dates.
Contact Oficina Académica if you think you leave is justified.
- Punctuality is very important: once I close the door, nobody will be allowed to enter.
We have only 10 theory sessions, and we need to cover one topic per day.
- The use of computers, tablets (and phones!!) is not allowed.
 - I will make sure you have the slides available in Canvas in advance.
- If a student continues talking after being warned, they will be expelled and the incident will be reported to the *Oficina Académica*.
Temporary suspension from the institution will follow after two expulsions.

Some advice

- Given that attendance is mandatory... make use of this time!

If you pay attention, you'll already have 10 hours of study.

- You are all encourage to participate in class: this will make the course more dynamic and fun.

→ Don't be shy and ask!

- Leaving things for the end of the term is a very bad idea...

That's why we have 4 midterms: take them seriously and you wont need to spend much time studying in December

Questions?