

ADVANCED MACROECONOMICS

Course code	<i>GRAE007</i>
Course title	<i>Advanced macroeconomics</i>
Type of course	<i>Compulsory</i>
Level of course	<i>Advanced</i>
Department in charge	<i>Graduate school</i>
Year of study	<i>1st</i>
Semester	<i>2nd</i>
Number of credits	<i>6 ECTS; 36 hours of class work, 124 hours of self-study, 2 hours of consultations (distant or direct form)</i>
Lecturer	<i>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nerijus Mačiulis</i>
Course prerequisites	<i>Macroeconomics</i>
Form of studies	<i>Consecutive (evening)</i>
Teaching language	<i>English</i>

Objective of the course

This is applied course in macroeconomics, which focuses on contemporary issues and developments in global economy. The main aim of this course is to understand how to pick and analyse myriad factors affecting economic growth, both in short and long term. Another important dimension of this course is the reflexivity between macroeconomic developments, economic policy and financial markets.

Learning outcomes

On completion of this course successful students will be able to:

Course learning outcomes (CLO)	Study methods	Assessment methods
CLO1. Be able to identify leading indicators of most macroeconomic variables	Lectures, discussion, individual presentation and report	Individual presentation and exam
CLO2. Understand the structure, dynamics and challenges of Lithuanian economy	Lectures, discussion, individual presentation, report	Individual presentation and exam
CLO3. Understand main factors behind different economic growth rates across the world and how governments can influence growth	Lectures, discussion, individual presentation and report	Individual presentation and exam
CLO4. Understand relationship between macroeconomic variables and financial markets	Lectures, discussion, individual presentation and report	Individual presentation and exam

Quality Assurance Measures

The lecturer will apply multiple interactive teaching methods to keep the students engaged in the topic (discussions, individual presentations and reports). Continuous student feedback will be encouraged and accommodated to continuously improve class experience.

COURSE CONTENT:

Date	Class	Topic
2021-04-15	1	Introduction to the course. How to read, interpret and analyze economic data. How to lie with statistics? Contemporary issues in the global economy.
2021-04-22	2	Contemporary issues in the global economy (continued). From global financial crisis to euro zone debt crisis. Unconventional monetary policy. Fiscal austerity versus economic stimulus. Modern monetary theory
2021-04-27	3	Contemporary issues in the global economy (continued). Global pandemic and its economic effects. Sustainability of oil demand and supply. China's role in the global economy.
2021-04-29	4	Economic recessions and financial crises: reflexive relationship. Cryptocurrencies. Where might the next global crisis come from? How real is the threat of runaway inflation?
		Student presentations: 1. Nowcasting GDP and alternatives to GDP 2. Factors of government borrowing costs. Can MMT proponents be right? 3. How to spot a real estate bubble?
2021-05-04	5	High frequency economic indicators. Measuring economic confidence (ZEW, IFO, PMI etc) and expectations. Alternative data. Leading and lagging indicators.
		Student presentations: 4. Leading indicators of consumer prices 5. Forecasting global trade. Can a trade surplus be as bad as deficit? 6. National savings rate and household savings rate
2021-05-06	6	Comparative analysis of Baltic economies: before and after the crisis. How to measure maturity of a business cycle?
		Student presentations: 7. Leading indicators of household and corporate debt 8. Leading indicators of wage growth 9. Leading indicators of household consumption
2021-05-11	7	Economic growth, factors of productivity, factor accumulation. Solow growth model. Measuring productivity. Path of productivity.
		Student presentations: 10. Leading indicators of gross fixed capital formation 11. Leading indicators of manufacturing 12. Natural rate of interest
2021-05-13	8	Shadow economy. How to measure and influence it? Optimal Taxation.
		Student presentations: 13. How to forecast the size of the labour force (short vs long term)? 14. Full employment, unemployment and natural unemployment 15. Correlation between stock returns and bond returns: macroeconomic context 16. Macroeconomic impact of the euro adoption
2021-05-20	9	Course wrap up
		Student presentations: 17. Economic effects of income inequality 18. Why inflation is so low? Is Philips curve dead? 19. Measuring shadow economy of country X 20. Supply and demand of commodity X 21. 22.
2021-05-24		Final exam

READINGS AND COURSE MATERIALS:

All necessary reading materials, including scientific publications, presentation slides and other materials will be made available on the e-learning system. Background books for this course are:

Olivier Blanchard (2009), *Macroeconomics*, 5th edition, Prentice Hall
 Sydsaeter, Knut (2008), *Further mathematics for economic analysis*, 2nd edition, Prentice Hall/
 Gillman, M. (2011), *Advanced modern macroeconomics*. Pearson.
 Weil, David N. (2009), *Economic Growth*, 2nd ed. Pearson.
 David Romer (2006), *Advanced Macroeconomics*, 3rd ed., Mc-Graw Hill

TEACHING METHODS:

The teaching will consist of lectures, discussions and debates. Each student will have to prepare individual report on proposed economic topic and make a 15-minute presentation in the classroom, which will be followed by questions and discussion. Report on presented topic (1-2 pages) should be sent by email to the lecturer by the end of the final lecture. At the end of each lecture 20 minutes are reserved for consultations on individual reports and presentations.

ASSESSMENT METHODS:

Method	Percent of course grade
Individual report and presentation	40
Participation	10
Final exam	50
Total:	100

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

In case of a negative final grade, students are allowed a re-sit exam. It will cover all course material. The weight of a re-sit is 50% of the final cumulative grade. Evaluation for report and class participation is not annulled. Students have to adhere to deadlines, as no extensions will be granted.

Special learning outcomes	
S1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of contemporary theories, their criticism and applications in the research field of financial economics; apply the modern theory of finance and economics in practice;	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3, CLO4
S2. Integrate theoretical knowledge of financial economics to develop, apply and implement original research ideas in the fields of financial management, investment management, financial risk management and financial engineering	
S3. Analyse and critically evaluate the behaviour of national and international financial markets and institutions, investment environment of the company, financial engineering tools, the impact of fiscal and monetary policy to formation and management of organizations' financial flows;	CLO1, CLO4
S4. Analyse and assess both micro- and macroeconomic environment of private and public organizations in financial-decision making;	
S5. Evaluate, choose, and systemically apply advanced mathematical statistics methods and advanced econometric models and techniques in solving complex problems of corporate finance, the management of financial markets and financial economics;	CLO1, CLO4
S6. Express independent opinion, formulate judgments and knowledge-based conclusions on relevant issues in financial economics, including international professional and academic literature	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3, CLO4
S7. Conceptualize, research and write a state of the art review of a chosen area of financial economics and analyze empirical data on the phenomenon under investigation; be able to evaluate the appropriateness of the use of social science research methods, both qualitative and quantitative, including a number of different econometric tools, in a particular context.	CLO1
General learning outcomes	
G1. To apply modern information technologies in the data gathering, analysis and communication.	CLO1
G2. To apply a systematic, critical-analytical and constructive thinking in problem identification and solving.	CLO1
G3. Have abilities to communicate in English the knowledge to specialist and non-specialist audiences clearly and unambiguously.	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3, CLO4
G3. Develop a range of personal skills including argumentation, evaluation, problem identification and solving, interactive and group skills, self-appraisal, cross-cultural teamwork.	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3, CLO4
G4. To prepare research papers in English according to proper language, writing style and general bibliographic citation requirements.	CLO1
G5. To develop independent learning skills necessary to continue studies on a higher	

level.	
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