

Introduction to Economics (A703001)

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

Credits	3.0	Study time	90 h	Contact hrs	30.0 h
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Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2017-2018

A (semester 1)	Dutch	lecture	22.5 h
		seminar	5.0 h
		guided self-study	2.5 h

Lecturers in academic year 2017-2018

Baert, Stijn	EB03	lecturer-in-charge
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Offered in the following programmes in 2017-2018

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages (main subject Dutch, English, French)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages (main subject Dutch, English, German)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages (main subject Dutch, English, Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages (main subject Dutch, English, Russian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages (main subject Dutch, English, Spanish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages (main subject Dutch, English, Turkish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages (main subject Dutch, French, German)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages (main subject Dutch, French, Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages (main subject Dutch, French, Russian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages (main subject Dutch, French, Spanish)	3	A
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Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages (main subject Dutch, German, Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages (main subject Dutch, German, Russian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages (main subject Dutch, German, Spanish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages (main subject Dutch, German, Turkish)	3	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Economics; Markets

Position of the course

This course unit offers students an overview of the key concepts and essential lines of reasoning in economics. This acquired knowledge enables them to understand economic articles in newspapers, magazines and policy texts, but also contributes to a better understanding of other course units.

Contents

- A.1. Introduction (what is economics; requirements, production factors and goods; types of economic systems; modern exchange theory; the financial sector; economic order; development of the economic theories; the economic research method)
- A.2. Foundations of the economic analysis (methodological individualism; homo economicus hypothesis; trade-offs; principle of optimisation; benefits of specialising and cooperation; market as a coordination mechanism)
- A.3. Families, companies and government
- A.4. Markets (markets of goods and services; markets of production factors)
- A.5 Macro-economic relations and indicators
- B. Introduction to research in economics

Initial competences

The general level of education that may be expected from students leaving secondary education. No prior knowledge is required.

Final competences

- 1 Knowledge and an understanding of essential concepts and lines of reasoning in economic science
- 2 Applying these essential concepts and lines of reasoning to historical and current social problems
- 3 Thinking and reasoning skills, and the ability for critical reflection

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Guided self-study, lecture, seminar

Extra information on the teaching methods

Interactive lecture with computer presentations
Electronic self-tests
Participation in and discussion on scientific research

Learning materials and price

The lecturer-in-charge makes the powerpoint presentations, used in the lectures, available on Minerva

References

The slides are based on the textbook "Economie toegelicht" (author: Marc De Clercq, publisher: Intersentia) which can be used as background material
This textbook lists further references at the end of each chapter

Course content-related study coaching

1. Students can contact the lecturer-in-charge regarding any content-related questions; he is available before, during and after the lectures, and can be contacted by e-mail
2. Self-tests are made available on Minerva
3. A mock examination is made available on Minerva and discussed during the last course day
4. Two Q&A sessions are organised during the semester

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Written examination with open questions, written examination with multiple choice questions

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Written examination with open questions, written examination with multiple choice questions

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Written examination with open questions and multiple-choice questions
Bonus points can be gathered via two electronic self-tests

Calculation of the examination mark

The periodic assessment (the written examination) is scored on 100% (i.e. 20) of the points

Each self-test for which at least half of the questions are correctly answered yields a bonus point -- bonus points are automatically transferred to the second exam period (there is no second chance)

Total scores above 20 are automatically reduced to 20

Addendum

A1EC