Fiscal Economics

First year courses

Compulsory Courses Year 1

School of Business and Economics

Management of Organisations and Marketing

Full course description

"This course, which has an evident business administration character, addresses the issues of managing organisations and their marketing activities. This course introduces the basic concepts necessary to analyse and understand the functioning of any organisation, among others management, culture, and structure. Fundamental aspects like what management is and why we should study it will be dealt with, firstly. Subsequently, managerial responsibilities, ethics and diversity, teams, decision making, and structure will be discussed among others. Based on this knowledge the course deals with challenges faced by organisations nowadays. The marketing part of this course builds upon ‘marketing orientation’ as a foundation of contemporary firms. Attention is, for instance, paid to basic marketing tools, positioning and segmentation strategies, and customer motivation. Throughout the course examples of real life problems organisations face are given. Next to these main subjects, practical skills deemed relevant for a successful study career will be emphasised."

Course objectives

This introductory course Management of Organisations and Marketing serves two main purposes. First, it aims at providing you with crucial theoretical and practice-oriented knowledge that helps you to understand the functioning of companies and the behaviour of management in business contexts. This knowledge will be derived from two disciplines: management and organisation (1) and marketing (2). More details on the perspectives of these disciplines will be provided in the next section. A second purpose of this course relates to the development of basic learning skills that you will need throughout your study at Maastricht University. This skills training mainly focuses on Problem-Based Learning. We introduce the 7-jump, different roles in tutorial groups and various PBL working methods. During the group sessions, you will have ample opportunity to practice your newly acquired PBL skills. When you have successfully finished this course, you are: capable of studying in an academic problem-based learning environment -knowledgeable of the foundations of management and organisation studies knowledgeable of the foundations of marketing studies -capable of understanding and explaining basic organisational and marketing problems in isolation

Prerequisites

An advanced level of English

Recommended reading

"Introductory marketing book Introductory management book Articles Literature on PBL in an international classroom"
EBC1003

Period 1
5 Sep 2016
28 Oct 2016

Print course description
ECTS credits: 6.5
Instruction language: English
Coordinators: N.L. van den Elst, K. Geyskens
Teaching methods: PBL, Lecture(s), Assignment(s), Presentation(s)
Assessment methods: Attendance, Participation, Written exam, Final paper

School of Business and Economics
Quantitative Methods I

Full course description

"QM I is the first introduction to methodological topics that are quantitative in nature: mathematics, statistics and computer science. In mathematics, we will repeat and extend students’ knowledge about functions and equations. Questions that play a role in this course are: How to translate a given problem into a mathematical model? Most of these problems are questions for a maximum or minimum value or for the significance of the problem - mathematically, the existence of a solution. How to find maximum and minimum values of a function of 1 and 2 variables? We will make use of derivatives and partial derivatives in order to formulate equations and conditions for extreme values. In statistics, we will focus on the following topics: Methods of Data collection, and types of data; Descriptive statistics: describing important characteristics of populations or samples by numerical methods as mean, median, mode (measures of central tendency) and variance and standard deviations (measures of spread), and by graphical methods, like a histogram, bar chart or Box-and-Whiskers display; Probability theory, as an introduction to random variables; Discrete random variables and the most important discrete probability distribution: the Binomial distribution; Continuous random variables and two continuous probability distributions: the Uniform and the Normal distribution; Sampling distributions, as a first step to the topic that will prevail the QM statistics agenda from now on: inferential statistics, or inductive reasoning. Understanding why large samples provide so much more information than small samples is an important element of this first step. The construction of confidence intervals in estimating unknown population parameters and Hypothesis testing in the simplest case of one population, and concepts as null and alternative hypothesis, type I and type II errors and the p-value of a hypothesis test. With regard to computing skills, training will be offered in several of the applications that are relevant for your study, and the assignments and projects you are expected to perform. Examples of such applications are: Windows, Word, Internet Explorer, Outlook (Email), Excel (spreadsheet), and the Blackboard, electronic learning environment. The main aim of QM I is to achieve that all students, irrespective of their prior education, master the topics mentioned above, and in addition to that, master these topics in an
active rather than passive manner. Practical work in different formats, like e.g. projects, will serve that last aim. The aim to level off prior quantitative knowledge of all incoming students implies that required efforts to pass this course will vary with your prior mathematical education. Students that did not have math as a major subject in their secondary education are advised to take summer classes in advance. SUBJECT TO CHANGE"

**Course objectives**

Active mastery and knowledge of basic mathematical and statistical techniques.

**Prerequisites**

Math secondary school at "minor" level.

**Recommended reading**


---

**EBC1007**

**Period 1**
5 Sep 2016
28 Oct 2016

[Print course description]

**ECTS credits:** 6.5

**Instruction language:** English

**Coordinator:** D.T. Tempelaar

**Teaching methods:** PBL, Lecture(s), Assignment(s), Paper(s)

**Assessment methods:** Participation, Written exam

---

**School of Business and Economics**

**Microeconomics**

**Full course description**

This course is an introduction to microeconomics, the economics branch concerned with the decisions of individual consumers and firms and how these decisions are connected to, and interact on, markets. Consumer decision-making is analysed first, leading to insights into the demand for goods and services at the market level. The analysis of firm behaviour follows, leading to the study of
different factors that determine the supply of goods and services. The two sides are integrated to see how markets act to coordinate supply and demand. The course examines four different market structures: perfect competition, monopoly, oligopoly, and monopolistic competition. The effects of different market structures on prices, quantities traded and welfare are explained. In general, monopoly has undesirable outcomes, and often prompts government intervention under the rubric of competition policy. The literature studied in the course is applied to some recent cases in competition policy. A parallel skills training integrates basic mathematical tools by discussing formal problems from the microeconomics textbook.

**Course objectives**

"Understand the basic concepts and tools from microeconomics, such as opportunity costs, models and “marginal” analysis. Learn to recognize the potential of these tools in practical applications. Learn to apply basic mathematical tools to help modelling economic problems."

**Prerequisites**

Basic mathematical principles, especially from calculus (comparable to the mathematics part of course Quantitative Methods 1, code EBC1005/1006/1007).

**Recommended reading**


---

**School of Business and Economics**

**Macroeconomics**

**Full course description**

The course provides an introduction into modern macroeconomic theory and economic policy. This gives basic tools needed to analyse macroeconomic developments. The course covers short-run fluctuations, medium-run equilibrium, and also long-run growth. It discusses macroeconomic policy in a European context, but in a globalizing world. The course includes training in presentation skills,
where small teams present and discuss macroeconomic data for various countries.

**Course objectives**

- learn how to analyse the macroeconomic performance of a country
- learn to understand how to interpret and understand various types of economic policy
- understand current discussions about fiscal and monetary policy
- training in presentation- and team-skills

**Prerequisites**

Coverage of basic mathematics, in particular algebra. An advanced level of English

**Recommended reading**


**EBC1019**

Period 4  
6 Feb 2017  
7 Apr 2017

[Print course description](#)  
ECTS credits:  
6.5

**Instruction language:**  
English

**Coordinator:**

[PR. de Regt](#)

**Teaching methods:**

PBL, Presentation(s), Lecture(s)

**Assessment methods:**

Participation, Written exam

**School of Business and Economics**

**Quantitative Methods II**

**Full course description**

"QM II continues the quantitative topics that were initiated in QM I: mathematics and statistics. There is no separate formal training in (or testing of) computer science: this element has been integrated into the remaining two parts of the course. In the mathematics part, we will expand the analysis of functions and (systems of) equations. Issues that will be addressed are: - The matrix representation of systems of linear equations (so called linear algebra) will be introduced and supplemented by the concepts of determinants and inverse matrices, which are important tools to manipulate such systems. - The (constrained) maximisation or minimisation of (nonlinear) functions of more than 1 variable. We introduce the extreme value theorem and the Lagrange multiplier method. - Further topics include implicit differentiation, the Taylor expansion, and a collection of tools often used in finance but also in other fields (buzzwords: interest rates, present value, discounting, and geometric series). All these topics will be introduced and illustrated using economic or business applications, and..."
functions that are often used in these fields (e.g. the Cobb-Douglas production function) will be analysed extensively. In the statistics part, we will expand the coverage of inferential statistics, i.e. how to draw conclusions about a population based on a sample. Students will learn to apply the basic tools of inferential statistics (confidence intervals and hypothesis tests) to examine a large array of questions that may occur in economics or business. We will focus on the following topics: -How to examine whether the mean of some quantitative variable (e.g. income) differs between two or more populations (e.g. men vs. women). Related to this, we will also examine what to do when the data are paired, and when the variable of interest is a proportion. -How to analyse relationships between qualitative variables (e.g. between brand preference and gender). -How to analyse relationships between two or more quantitative variables (e.g. between income and age) using regression analysis. This is one of the most frequently used statistical techniques in economics and business. All these issues will involve the use of real-life data, which will be analysed using EXCEL."

**Course objectives**

"Introduction to the matrix representation of (linear) systems of equations, and to the (constrained) maximization or minimization of (nonlinear) functions of more than 1 variable. Introduction to the basic tools of inferential statistics, a.o. the independent-samples t-test, the paired-sample t-test, one-way-ANOVA, the chi-square test and regression analysis."

**Prerequisites**

Basic knowledge of mathematics and statistics, comparable to the course Quantitative Methods I, code EBC1005/1006/1007.

**Recommended reading**


QM1 + QM2 mathematics reader, to be downloaded on Eleum.
Full course description

This course provides an introduction to the fundamentals of finance. Students learn how capital markets function and how individuals and companies wishing to raise capital approach financial markets. Students learn how to make investment decisions. The basic concepts of risk and return shall be taught. Equity markets and Bond markets are introduced and the tools with which to price stocks, bonds and other financial assets, which trade on financial markets, are covered. Analytical problems are applied to financial problems during tutorial group meetings to ensure students are provided with a solid grounding in finance from both a corporate and a personal perspective.

Course objectives

Learn how capital markets function. Apply knowledge to financial problems, capital budgeting and investment decisions.

Prerequisites

No specific required knowledge requested

Recommended reading

Berk & De Marzo, Corporate Finance, Pearson

EBC1027

Period 5
18 Apr 2017
9 Jun 2017

Print course description

ECTS credits:
6.5

Instruction language:
English

Coordinator:
S.T.M. Straetmans

Teaching methods:
PBL, Lecture(s), Assignment(s)

Assessment methods:
Participation, Written exam

School of Business and Economics

Accounting

Full course description

The aim of this course is to introduce accounting to students. Accounting can be split into financial
accounting and management accounting. In this course, we focus on management accounting. In discussing the subject of management accounting, which has an internal focus (like managers and the board of directors), we will concentrate on the value of management accounting information for the internal decision-making process.

**Course objectives**

“Graduates have academic, evidence-based knowledge and understanding of theories, methods and tools in business/economics. Graduates can apply their knowledge and understanding to identify and solve real life business/economic problems. This includes demonstrating analytical skills and a problem-solving attitude. Graduates can inform judgments on theoretical and practical business/economic issues. Graduates have largely self-directed learning skills and the ability to regulate their own learning process. Graduates have a professional attitude. This includes demonstrating an open mind, proactive behaviour, critical reflection and accountability.”

**Prerequisites**

No specific required knowledge requested

**Recommended reading**

globalist groups even contend that the industrialized world continues to exploit the developing world, leading to a widening of the gap between countries. In this course, we critically analyse the theoretical fundamentals of both the financial-monetary and real aspects of the international economy. On the monetary side, exchange rate determination, the role of international financial markets and the choice of exchange rate regime are the focus. On the real side, international competitiveness, the gains from trade and factor move inputs are central. We use the theoretical insights to discuss extensively important problems, like trade policy and the distribution of wealth across nations. Obviously, international organisations and institutions like the IMF, World Bank and WTO play an important role in our critical discussions. Overall, the course will focus on the following topics: - international trade, - exchange rates, - macroeconomic policy, - globalisation.

Course objectives

- Learn how to analyse international trade, capital flows and exchange rates - Learn how to interpret and understand various types of economic policy in an international context - Understand current discussions about developments in international relations including the current economic crisis.

Prerequisites

Exchange students should have a basic knowledge of micro and macroeconomics an advanced level of English"

Recommended reading

Compulsory Skills Year 1

School of Business and Economics

Economy Game

Full course description

Students participate in a series of market simulations in which they represent consumers, producers or traders. Afterwards they will analyse the data of the market simulations and compare them to the standard theory they have learned during their first year. Moreover they will apply the learned concepts to real life situations in their writing assignments.

Prerequisites

Basic knowledge in microeconomics, statistics, and date processing (MS excel)

Recommended reading

None

EBS1007

Period 6
12 Jun 2017
7 Jul 2017

Print course description
ECTS credits:
4.0
Instruction language:
English
Teaching methods:
PBL, Assignment(s), Paper(s)
Assessment methods:
Participation

School of Business and Economics

Reflections on academic discourse

Full course description

“The present skills training is about the value of ideas in understanding our environment. The discussions provoked by the economic crisis will help you to consider why some theories are relevant over a certain time period in various cultures and others are not, while at the same time proponents of both sets of theories seem to consider their respective theories as absolutely true. We will encourage you to examine why for many theories that seem to be quite successful, you can find an opposite theory that is adopted by many other academics or practitioners. You have to choose a topical area to which you want to apply this course. All first years students in this School follow this course together (i.e. Economics Econometrics, Fiscal Economics and International Business students
Prerequisities

No specific required knowledge requested

Recommended reading


EBS1001

Period 3
9 Jan 2017
3 Feb 2017

Print course description

ECTS credits:
4.0

Instruction language:
English

Coordinator:
A. Baranski Madrigal

Teaching methods:
Lecture(s), Assignment(s), Paper(s)

Assessment methods:
Final paper, Participation, Written exam

Second year courses

Compulsory Courses Year 2

School of Business and Economics

Financial Markets

Full course description

The course deals with basic issues in finance, such as risk diversification and asset pricing, capital structure, investment valuation, market efficiency, dividend policy, derivatives, mergers and acquisitions.

Course objectives

Understand what finance theory says about how risky securities are priced in equilibrium. Understand what finance theory has to say about the mix between debt and equity finance for a firm.
the implications of the previously mentioned points for risky investment valuation. Understand dividends: Why do firms pay dividends? Do investors demand dividends? Should dividends matter for the firm or the investor? Learn about derivatives and their use as risk management tools by firms and investors. Understand why companies merge with each other.

**Prerequisites**

Students are expected to understand the following finance concepts: Types of securities (stocks, bonds) and their returns; the concept of risk diversification and efficient frontiers, principles of time value of money. Exchange students need to have taken at least one introductory finance course.

**Recommended reading**

Berk & De Marzo, Corporate Finance, Pearson

---

**EBC2006**

**Period 2**  
31 Oct 2016  
23 Dec 2016

[Print course description](#)  
**ECTS credits:**  
6.5  
**Instruction language:**  
English  
**Coordinator:**  
[T. Post](#)  
**Teaching methods:**  
PBL, Presentation(s), Assignment(s)  
**Assessment methods:**  
Participation, Written exam, Final paper

**School of Business and Economics**

**Public Finance**

**Full course description**

Dit vak geeft de studenten een inleiding tot de economische theorie van de publieke sector. Thema's die aan bod komen zijn onder andere: publieke goederen, externaliteiten, onderwijs, gezondheidszorg, pensioenen, herverdeling, collectieve besluitvorming en kosten-batenanalyse.

**Course objectives**

De studenten leren de basisbegrippen uit de economische theorie van de publieke sector kennen.
Recommended reading


EBC2127

Period 4
6 Feb 2017
7 Apr 2017

Print course description

ECTS credits:
6.5

Instruction language:
English

Coordinator:
K.G.M. Bosmans

Teaching methods:
PBL, Lecture(s), Paper(s)

Assessment methods:
Attendance, Participation, Written exam

School of Business and Economics

Privaatrecht

Full course description

Fiscaal recht kan niet bestaan zonder een regeling van private verhoudingen. Als niet vaststaat wie eigenaar is van een huis kan men geen onroerende zaak belasting heffen en hangt ook de overdrachtsbelasting in de lucht. Als is verkocht, maar nog niet is geleverd, wie is dan omzetbelasting verschuldigd? Zo zijn er legio voorbeelden te geven die onderstrepen dat een goede kennis van het privaatrecht voor een fiscalist essentieel is. Dit blok is er op gericht die kennis te verwerven. In “privaatrecht” wordt daartoe, voortbouwend op de vaardigheid “Inleiding recht”, ingegaan op de onderscheiden gebieden binnen het privaatrecht waarna met name de beginselen van het verbintenissen- en goederenrecht centraal worden gesteld. De totstandkoming en aantasting van contracten, de overdracht van goederen en de bijzondere zakelijke rechten zijn kernonderwerpen van dit blok. Verder komen aan de orde het leerstuk van de onrechtmatige daad, het schadevergoedingsrecht, de zekerheidsrechten (met name pand en hypotheek). Het blok wordt afgerond met een korte verkenning van het faillissementsrecht. For further information please refer to www.unimaas.nl > Faculty of Law > Education > Programme guide of the appropriate academic year.

Recommended reading

Buchem-Spapens, A.M.J. van, Faillissement en Surseance van betaling 7de druk), 2004 Dam, van C.C., Verheij, A.J. (red), Privaatrecht als Opdracht, (7de herziene druk) 2006 Vermande Verzameling Nederlandse Wetgeving of Kluwer Collegebundel (meest recente uitgave).
School of Business and Economics

Accounting II

Full course description

New block IBE year 2 Learn how to prepare, analyze and interpret financial statement (income statement, balance sheet, cash flow statement) at an introductory level.

Course objectives

Learn how to prepare, analyse, and interpret financial statements at an introductory level.

Recommended reading


EBC2002

Period 1
5 Sep 2016
28 Oct 2016

Print course description

ECTS credits:
6.5

Instruction language:
English

Coordinators:
R.J.R. Cuijpers
School of Business and Economics

Structuur Loon- en Inkomstenbelasting

Full course description

In dit blok staat de natuurlijke persoon die niet ondernemer is centraal. In dit blok wordt grondig aandacht geschonken aan de systematiek van de loon- en inkomstenbelasting. Er wordt aandacht besteed aan de plaats van diverse inkomstenbronnen binnen de inkomstenbelasting, zoals arbeid en resultaat uit overige werkzaamheden. Uitgebreid aandacht krijgt de inkomstenbron arbeid en inherent daaraan de loonbelasting. Daarnaast komt de premieheffing sociale zekerheid aan de orde. In het tweede deel van het blok komt het vermogen aan bod: de inkomsten uit eigen woning (box 1) kent een prominente plaats, daarnaast komen de inkomsten in de vorm van periodieke uitkeringen en verstrekkingen (box 1), en het inkomen uit aanmerkelijk belang (box 2) aan de orde. Bijzondere aandacht wordt besteed aan de inkomstenbelastinggevolgen van echtscheiding. Tot slot wordt de vermogensrendementheffing (box 3) behandeld. Het personen-, familie- en huwelijksvermogensrecht zijn eveneens van belang.

Course objectives

Het verkrijgen van inzicht in de structuur van de loon- en inkomstenbelasting van een werknemer resp. belastingplichtige die niet- ondernemer is. Daarnaast dient inzicht te worden verkregen in het personen-, familie-, huwelijksvermogens- en erfrecht.

Recommended reading

**Teaching methods:**
PBL, Lecture(s)

**Assessment methods:**
Written exam, Participation

---

**Faculty of Law**

**Kostprijsverhogende Belastingen**

**Full course description**

Het vakgebied Kostprijsverhogende belastingen omvat diverse belastingen zoals omzetbelasting, accijnzen, milieuheffingen, de overdrachtsbelasting, bijzondere verbruiksbelastingen enz. Het blok kostprijsverhogende belastingen is met name toegespitst op de omzetbelasting. Van genoemde belastingen is de omzetbelasting (btw) zowel in maatschappelijk als in wetenschappelijk opzicht de belangrijkste. Elke ondernemer heeft ermee te maken. De nationale opbrengst bedraagt meer dan € 40 miljard. De omzetbelasting wordt grotendeels beheerst door Europese regelgeving en door de rechtspraak van het Hof van Justitie van de Europese Unie. De harmonisering van de omzetbelasting, die sinds 1967 voortschrijdt en in 1993 de afschaffing van de fysieke grenscontroles met zich bracht, staat in dienst van de verdere realisering van de interne markt waarop gelijke concurrentievoorwaarden gelden. Het systeem van heffing, het toepassingsbereik, de structuur van de regelgeving, alle fiscaal relevante elementen ter vaststelling van een belastingsschuld, zelfs detailregels en begrippen zijn Europees vastgelegd. Voorzover er onduidelijkheden in de toepassing van regels rijzen wordt de regelgeving vaak door het Hof van Justitie van de Europese Unie uitgelegd. De Btw-richtlijnen zijn tot de Lid-Staten gericht, maar ondernemers kunnen er rechten aan ontlenen. Aan de hand van casuspositites maakt u kennis met het systeem van de omzetbelasting en het belang ervan voor ondernemers. De kernelementen van de btw komen aan bod: belastingplicht, belastbaar feit, plaats van de prestatie, vrijstellingen, aftrek van voorbelasting en grensoverschrijdende transacties. Daarnaast wordt diepgaand de onroerende-zaakproblematiek behandeld in samenhang met de overdrachtsbelasting. Gedurende het blok worden interactieve colleges gegeven (1 x per week). De te behandelen casus in de werkgroepen hebben een tweeledig doel. Zij ondersteunen de studenten bij de oefening om uit de feitelijkheid de fiscaal-juridische problemen te herkennen. Dit en het verder analyseren en oplossen van de casus beoogt tevens het vlok waarbinnen de casus of de rechtsvraag speelt, te leren kennen als deel van het geheel (bijv. plaats en functie van vrijstellingen, of, de allocatie van ondernemersactiviteiten als probleem van internationale afbakening, enz.). Daarmee verwerft men ook overzicht met betrekking tot de achtergronden van de regelgeving.

**Recommended reading**

Compulsory Skills Year 2 and 3

School of Business and Economics
Quantitative Methods III

Full course description

This skills training is devoted to refreshing and actively applying the basic inferential tools introduced in the statistics part of typical first year quantitative methods courses: a.o. the one-sample t-test, the independent-samples t-test, the paired-sample t-test, one-way-ANOVA, the chi-square test and regression analysis. Six case studies using real-life datasets that reflect business problems from a.o. marketing and finance are examined extensively. The empirical analyses are performed with SPSS, a statistical software package widely used in professional practice.

Course objectives

"- Learn to recognize the opportunities to apply basic tools from inferential statistics in practical business situations. - Learn to implement these tools correctly, using the statistical software package SPSS, also known as PASW. - Learn to interpret the results of such analyses correctly, and understand their limitations."

Prerequisites

"Basic principles from inferential statistics as discussed in typical first-year Quantitative Methods courses such as QM1 (code EBC 1005/1006/1007) and QM2 (code EBC 1033/1034/1035): basic probability theory, population versus sample, sampling distribution, point estimation, confidence intervals, type I error, regression analysis. Exchange students must have attended courses similar to QM1 and QM2 at their home university. If not, successful completion of QM3 is impossible."
Recommended reading


---

**EBS2001**

**Period 3**  
9 Jan 2017  
3 Feb 2017

[Print course description](#)  
**ECTS credits:**  
4.0  
**Instruction language:**  
English  
**Coordinator:**  
C.C.J.M.C. Kerckhoffs  
**Teaching methods:**  
PBL, Lecture(s), Assignment(s)  
**Assessment methods:**  
Attendance, Participation, Written exam

School of Business and Economics  
**Presentation Skills**

**Full course description**

"The presentation skills training program focuses on creative ways of presenting information. In general, students in their final year of undergraduate education have used PowerPoint on numerous occasions for various courses. The training in this skills course focuses on different communication techniques. Some examples follow. Pecha Kucha: a timed presentation using pictures. Students learn to time their presentation and respect deadline of 20 seconds per slide. Requires good preparation. Elevator Speech: few minutes to draw someone’s attention to an issue, aiming at establishing a future appointment with the interlocutor and tell him/her more. Students learn to be concise and effective. TED talk: combines story-telling, the use of catchphrases, metaphors, analogies, maintaining the audience's interest. Learning objective: the power of words and presence on stage. PowerPoint is a support but how you convey your information is of paramount importance."

**Course objectives**

Increased ability to give a (good) presentation (enhanced presentation skills).

**Prerequisites**

No specific knowledge required. Students in the Bachelor Fiscal Economics can only choose this skills training in period 6.
Recommended reading

Reading booklet, provided on Eleum.

EBS2030

Period 3
9 Jan 2017
3 Feb 2017

Period 6
12 Jun 2017
7 Jul 2017

Print course description

ECTS credits:
4.0

Instruction language:
English

Coordinator:
F. Casoria

Teaching methods:
PBL, Presentation(s), Assignment(s)

Assessment methods:
Attendance, Participation

Third year courses

Compulsory Courses Year 3

School of Business and Economics

Design of Tax Systems

Full course description

The course covers the main topics in the economics of taxation. The first aim is to provide a theoretical framework for thinking about tax policy. We consider both efficiency and distributional considerations and discuss how they can be optimally balanced in designing a tax system. This theoretical framework is then applied to (i) the major types of taxes, i.e., the personal income tax, the corporation income tax, taxes on consumption and taxes on wealth, and to (ii) a variety of other issues in taxation, such as tax evasion and deficit finance.

Course objectives

Students will apply acquired economic competencies to the design of tax systems.

Prerequisites

Prerequisites for this course are an intermediate course in microeconomics and an intermediate course in public economics like "Public Finance and Public Choice" (EBC2127) or "Public Economics" (EBC2012).
Recommended reading

EBC2017

Period 2
31 Oct 2016
23 Dec 2016

Print course description
ECTS credits: 6.5
Instruction language: English
Coordinator: K.G.M. Bosmans
Teaching methods: PBL, Presentation(s), Paper(s)
Assessment methods: Attendance, Participation, Written exam, Oral exam

School of Business and Economics
International Financial Accounting

Full course description
The course covers corporate financial accounting and reporting. The objectives of and international differences in financial accounting are discussed. However, the focus of the course will be on the understanding and application of financial accounting methods required by IAS/IFRS in various areas. During the meetings the required literature, questions, and assignments will be discussed.

Course objectives
"Understanding the sources and implications of international differences in accounting approaches, Becoming familiar with IAS/IFRS, but more importantly, Developing the conceptual knowledge of financial accounting in order to facilitate the understanding (i) of current financial accounting practice, (ii) of why IAS/IFRS prescribes certain accounting methods, and (iii) of why other standard setters (such as the US FASB) may have chosen to prescribe alternative methods"

Prerequisites
"2nd year courses Accounting II (EBC2002) or Finance and Accounting (EBC2007) . Students from outside the UM should have sufficient knowledge of the topics discussed in chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14 of the textbook of Libby, Libby, & Short ""Financial Accounting""."
School of Business and Economics

Internal Control and Accounting Information Systems

Full course description

The area of internal control and accounting information systems concerns the quality of (financial) information. As a result of recent corporate financial scandals, this has become a significant issue in today's business. Every business needs a control system that monitors the effectiveness and efficiency of operations, reduces the risk of asset loss, and helps to ensure the reliability of financial reporting and compliance with laws and regulations. The course Internal Control & Accounting Information Systems is an introduction into the key concepts and techniques of internal control, such as information quality, the COSO control framework, IT controls and organisational controls. Based on these concepts and techniques, the course addresses the design of effective and efficient internal controls for the purchasing, inventory, production and sales activities of businesses.

Course objectives

"Understand the concept of quality of information and the importance of this concept. Understand the role of internal control in producing information of high quality and in promoting the efficiency and effectiveness of an organisation's operations. Learn about the different organizational processes within organisations, and learn how to design internal controls for each of these processes. Learn about the controls that specifically apply to Information Technology (IT) and integrate these into each of the business processes. Graduates have academic, evidence-based knowledge and understanding of theories, methods and tools in business/economics. Graduates can apply their knowledge and understanding to identify and solve real life business/economic problems. This includes demonstrating
analytical skills and a problem-solving attitude. Graduates can inform judgments on theoretical and practical business/economic issues. Graduates can effectively communicate both to specialist and nonspecialist audiences. This includes demonstrating strong presentation skills, project-management skills and interpersonal skills. Graduates have largely self-directed learning skills and the ability to regulate their own learning process. Graduates have a professional attitude. This includes demonstrating an open mind, proactive behaviour, critical reflection and accountability. Graduates can effectively function in a multicultural environment and work in multicultural teams. This includes demonstrating interpersonal skills and a high proficiency of English. Graduates show social responsibility. This includes demonstrating awareness for academic and scientific responsibility in a broader social or ethical context."

**Prerequisites**

No specific knowledge required.

**Recommended reading**


---

**EBC2057**

**Period 4**

6 Feb 2017

7 Apr 2017

[Print course description]

**ECTS credits:**

6.5

**Instruction language:**

English

**Coordinator:**

[C.C.M. Schelleman]

**Teaching methods:**

PBL, Presentation(s), Assignment(s)

**Assessment methods:**

Participation, Written exam

---

**Faculty of Law**

**Inleiding Ondernemings- en Faillissementsrecht**

**Full course description**

In het ondernemingsrechtelijke deel van dit blok wordt een overzicht gegeven van de belangrijkste basisbegrippen van het ondernemingsrecht. Onderwerpen die daarbij aan de orde komen zijn: de juridische organisatie van een onderneming (rechtsvormen, organen en bevoegdheden), de vertegenwoordigingsbevoegdheid, verantwoordelijkheid en aansprakelijkheid, en het kapitaal en vermogen van de vennootschap. De focus is met name gericht op de kapitaalvennootschappen - de naamloze vennootschap en besloten vennootschap - maar ook de personenvennootschappen, de vereniging en stichting komen aan bod. De te behandelen stof is verdeeld over onderwijsgroepen en
enkele colleges. In het tweede deel van dit blok staat het faillissementsrecht centraal. Aandacht wordt besteed aan het doel van het faillissement en de gevolgen ervan voor de gefailleerde, zijn vermogen en zijn schuldeisers. Besproken wordt wat er wel en niet in de boedel valt en hoe en door wie die wordt beheerd en vereffend. Er zal kort gekeken worden waarom de surseance van betaling niet functioneert zoals de wetgever dat voor ogen had, terwijl de schuldsaneringsregeling voor natuurlijke personen iets uitgebreider aan de orde komt. Het blok wordt afgesloten met de bestudering van de manier waarop het vermogen van de failliete (rechts) persoon wordt verdeeld en de rangorde die hierbij geldt.

Course objectives

Aan het eind van dit blok hebben de deelnemers grondige basiskennis en inzicht verworven van het Nederlandse ondernemingsrecht en faillissementsrecht

Recommended reading


PRI3002

Period 1
5 Sep 2016
28 Oct 2016

Print course description

ECTS credits:
6.0

Instruction language:
Dutch

Coordinator:
J.J.A. Hamers

Teaching methods:
Lecture(s), PBL

Assessment methods:
Written exam

Keywords:
Inleiding, Ondernemingsrecht, Faillissementsrecht

Faculty of Law

Vennootschapsbelasting

Full course description

In dit blok staat de belastingheffing over de winst van NV’s, BV’s en andere lichamen centraal. Het blok vormt een inleiding op de belastingheffing over de winst van vennootschappen. In het masterblok Fiscaal concernrecht wordt hierop voortgebouwd. In dit blok komen de specifieke aspecten van de winstbepaling voor vennootschappen ten opzichte van die voor ondernemers in de
inkomstenbelasting aan de orde. Behandeld worden de afbakening voor de vennootschapsbelasting van het subject en het object, de storting van kapitaal en de uitdeling van winst, de aftrek van rente en de verrekening van verliezen. Verder komen, inleidend, aan de orde de voor de vennootschapsbelasting specifieke leerstukken van de deelnemingsvrijstelling en de fiscale eenheid. Naast de vennootschapsbelasting wordt aandacht besteed aan de dividendbelasting, die wordt geheven bij de winstuikeringen door een vennootschap aan haar aandeelhouders.

**Course objectives**

Verwerven van basiskennis van de vennootschapsbelasting en de dividendbelasting. Na afloop van het blok moet de student in staat zijn om problemen op het gebied van de vennootschapsbelasting en de dividendbelasting, die geen betrekking hebben op concernstructuren, grensoverschrijdende structuren of fusies en splitsingen, te onderkennen en te analyseren en er mogelijke oplossingen voor aan te dragen.

**Prerequisites**

Voor een goed begrip van de vennootschapsbelasting is enige kennis van de inkomstenbelasting onontbeerlijk. Degenen die weinig of geen kennis van de inkomstenbelasting hebben, wordt daarom dringend aangeraden om voor de aanvang van het blok een beknopte inleiding in de inkomstenbelasting door te nemen. Bbruikbaar zijn, uit het boek: C.A. de Kam P.M. van Schie e.a., Belastingrecht in Hoofdlijnen, Studenteneditie, FED fiscale studieserie 38, laatste druk, Kluwer, Hoofdstuk 2 of uit het boek: M.L.M. van Kempen, P.H.J. Essers e.a., Cursus belastingrecht (Inkomstenbelasting), studenteneditie laatste druk, Kluwer, Hoofdstuk 1 of uit het boek: L.G.M. Stevens, Elementair belastingrecht voor economen en bedrijfsjuristen, laatste editie, theorieboek, Hoofdstuk 4. Dit hoofdstuk geeft een kort overzicht van de structuur van de inkomstenbelasting. Uit hetzelfde boek kan desgewenst vooraf ook nog worden bestudeerd: hoofdstuk 6, voor de begrippen onderneming, ondernemer en totale winst, en hoofdstuk 7, voor de jaarwinstbepaling.

**Recommended reading**


**TAX3005**

**Period 4**

6 Feb 2017
7 Apr 2017

[Print course description]

**ECTS credits:**
Faculty of Law

Winst uit Onderneming

Full course description

Het blok bestaat uit twee delen, te weten het deel winst uit onderneming dat in de onderwijsbijeenkomsten aan bod komt en anderzijds het Practicum Tax accounting dat tijdens de colleges behandeld wordt. De onderwijsbijeenkomsten zullen beginnen met de bestudering van de personen die winst uit onderneming en resultaat uit overige werkzaamheden genieten. Na de afbakening van het fiscale begrip onderneming wordt aandacht besteed aan de diverse aspecten van de fiscale winstbepaling. Hiernaast gaan de colleges van het practicum Tax Accounting lopen waarbij ingegaan wordt op de afleiding van de fiscale winst uit de vennootschappelijke of bedrijfseconomische winst, met andere woorden de fiscale comptabiliteit. Ter voorbereiding op deze colleges dienen opdrachten uitgewerkt te worden. In het kader van het goed koopmansgebruik komen o.a. de vermogensetikettering, de ondernemingskosten, vrijstellingen en de foutenleer aan de orde. Daarna zal de aandacht gericht worden op de fiscale balanswaardering (voorraad, onderhanden werk, debiteuren, bedrijfsmiddelen en afschrijvingen, fiscale reserves, voorzieningen) en op de belastingfaciliteiten voor ondernemers. Tenslotte zal diepgaand aandacht besteed worden aan bedrijfsoverdracht, firmaproblemen, de ouderdomsvoorziening voor ondernemers en de staking van ondernemingen (met aandacht voor overlijdswinst, inbreng in man-vrouwfirma en doorschuiving in familiesfeer). Na afsluiting van dit blok weet de student wanneer sprake is van ondernemerschap, kan de student de fiscale winst van een onderneming bepalen en is hij in staat de staking van een onderneming fiscaal te begeleiden. Ook is de student in staat te adviseren bij investeringsbeslissingen.

Course objectives

Doelstelling van dit blok is het verwerven van een grondige kennis inzake de fiscale winstbepaling in de inkomstenbelasting en de winstbepaling in de jaarrekening.

Prerequisites

De inhoud van het blok Hoofdzaken loon- en inkomstenbelasting wordt als voorkennis bekend verondersteld

Recommended reading

Literatuur: H. Mobach e.a., Cursus Belastingrecht, deel Inkomstenbelasting, Kluwer, in blokboek aangegeven besluiten, jurisprudentie en tijdschriftartikelen,.W.J. de Kort, Bedrijfseconomie voor
TAX3004

Period 2
31 Oct 2016
23 Dec 2016

Print course description
ECTS credits:
6.0
Instruction language:
Dutch
Coordinator:
A.H.H. Bollen
Teaching methods:
Lecture(s), PBL, Assignment(s), Presentation(s)
Assessment methods:
Written exam, Assignment
Keywords:
Onderneming, winstbepaling, resultaatbepaling, waardering, staking, ondernemersfaciliteiten, oudedagsvoorzieningen, fiscale comptabiliteit, tax accounting

Faculty of Law
Hoofdzaken Formeel Belastingrecht

Full course description

In dit blok krijgt u een introductie in een aantal aspecten van het formele belastingrecht. Het blok behandelt drie vakgebieden. Het grootste deel van dit blok omvat het (fiscale) bestuurs- en bestuursprocesrecht. Daarbij wordt ingegaan op de relatie tussen de Algemene wet bestuursrecht (Awb) en de Algemene wet inzake rijksoverheid (AWR). Centraal staan daarbij onder meer de algemene beginselen van behoorlijk bestuur, de informatie-uitwisseling met de belastingdienst, het doen van aangifte, het opleggen van de aanslag, de (omkering van) bewijslast, de navordering en de naheffing. Daarna wordt stil gestaan bij de mogelijkheden voor bezwaar, beroep, hoger beroep en cassatie en de formele vereisten daarbij. In dit kader eist u ook het schrijven van een bezwaar- of beroepschrijft. Het tweede deel van dit blok behandelt de fiscale boete. Naast het bestuurlijke boeterecht in de Awb zullen ook hier de bijzondere fiscale bepalingen omtrent verzuim- en vergrijpboeten centraal staan. Bij dit boeterecht komen ook de grenzen met strafvervolging aan bod en de eisen die het Europese Verdrag voor de Rechten van de Mens (EVRM) stelt aan het proces van het opleggen van boeten. In het derde deel van dit blok komt de invordering van een vastgestelde belasting aan bod. Als de inspecteur de aanslag heeft vastgesteld en opgelegd wordt de aanslag naar de ontvanger gestuurd, die zich vervolgens bezighoudt met de inning van de aanslag. Hierbij staat de Invorderingswet centraal. Gekeken wordt naar betalingsprocedures, de dwangmiddelen die de belastingdienst heeft om bedragen in te vorderen, zoals beslaglegging of het aanvragen van faillissement, en de verschuldigdheid van rente.

Course objectives

- De student bezit kennis van het (fiscale) bestuurs- en bestuursprocesrecht - De student is in staat
Bachelor Fiscal Economics

een bezwaar- of beroepsschrift op te stellen - De student bezit kennis van het (fiscale) boeterecht en de daarmee samenhangende bepalingen van het Europese Verdrag voor de Rechten van de Mens - De student bezit kennis van het invorderingsrecht

Prerequisites

Aanbeveling: inleiding in het materieel belastingrecht, bijvoorbeeld Inleiding belastingrecht (FdR) of Structuur loon- en inkomstenbelasting (SBE). Voorkennis: Privaatrecht, bestuursrecht en inleiding belastingrecht voorzover het in het voorgaande jaar is behandeld.

Recommended reading


TAX2001

Period 1
5 Sep 2016
28 Oct 2016

Print course description

ECTS credits:
9.0
Instruction language:
Dutch
Coordinator:
N.H.A. Gorissen
Teaching methods:
Lecture(s), PBL, Assignment(s)
Assessment methods:
Written exam, Assignment
Keywords:
Fiscaal bestuursrecht, bestuursprocesrecht, fiscaal boeterecht en strafrecht, invordering, beginselen van behoorlijk bestuur

Faculty of Law

Nederlands internationaal belastingrecht

Full course description

Dit blok behandelt de Nederlandse regelingen ten aanzien van het internationaal belastingrecht. Naast de internationale bepalingen van de subjectieve belastingplicht komen ook de internationale

Course objectives

Het blok Internationaal Belastingrecht heeft tot doel voor de student kennis van en inzicht te verwerven in de Nederlandse regelingen van internationaal belastingrecht. Aan het eind van het blok moet de student in staat zijn om de meest voorkomende praktijkgevallen zelfstandig op te lossen en kan hij beslissingen en opvattingen van de wetgever, rechters en academische literatuur kritisch beoordelen. Studenten worden geacht de vermindering ter voorkoming dubbele belasting van een casus met gemiddelde moeilijkheidsgraad te kunnen berekenen.

Prerequisites

Voorkennis van het EU-recht en de inkomstenbelasting, loonheffingen en de vennootschapsbelasting is wenselijk.

Recommended reading


TAX3008

Period 5
17 Apr 2017
16 Jun 2017

Print course description

ECTS credits: 6.0

Instruction language: Dutch

Coordinator: M.G.H. Schaper

Teaching methods: Lecture(s), PBL

Assessment methods: Written exam, Presentation

Keywords:
Elective Courses

School of Business and Economics

Management Information Systems

Full course description

Students who are in the "new" programme IB (starting 1 September 2008) have to take this block in period 4. Students who are in the "old" programme IB (started before 1 September 2008) can take this block either in period 1 or in period 4. Students who are in the programme Infonomics (starting 1 September 2008) have to take this block in period 1. Too often IT is viewed as the province of technocrats, a domain inhabited by technical experts with little relevance to real-world business problems.

Course objectives

The purpose of this course is: To give students an understanding of the role of information technology (IT) in organisations. To give students an understanding of the challenges of managing technology. To provide students with a thorough knowledge of different types of IT applications.

Recommended reading

Reader available via ELEUM.

EBC2003

Period 4
6 Feb 2017
7 Apr 2017

Print course description
ECTS credits:
6.5
Instruction language:
English
Coordinator:
M.P.M. Vluggen
Teaching methods:
PBL, Presentation(s), Lecture(s), Assignment(s)
Assessment methods:
Participation, Written exam

School of Business and Economics
Banking

Full course description

"The aim of this course is to provide an introduction to topics in the field of (international) financial markets, central banks and monetary policy and the banking sector. The course begins with a classification of financial markets (e.g. capital markets, money markets) as well as an analysis of the role financial markets play in the overall economic framework, both from a macro-economic as well as a micro-economic perspective. Thereafter, the "management" of financial markets is discussed, in particular the central role played by central banks in this respect. The functions and tasks of central banks will be analysed, in particular their responsibility for monetary policy. In this context, the course will in particular deal with the operational framework for monetary policy, and the interaction of central banks and banks in the money market. Subsequently, another major player in the financial markets will be analysed, i.e. the banking sector. The functions of banks will be elaborated upon, as well as their respective business activities. Also the developments in the (international) banking sector will be analysed. The course finishes with an analysis of risk management at banks, and the importance of adequate risk management from the point of view of overall financial stability. In this context, the role of financial supervisors will be discussed."

Course objectives

To understand the functioning of financial (sub)markets (e.g. capital and money market) and their role and function in the overall economic framework; To get a basic understanding of the functions of a central bank and monetary policy; To understand the essentials of banks and to get a basic understanding of their operations; to learn about the main developments in the (international) banking sector; To understand the basics of financial risk management and the role of supervisory authorities; to get a basic understanding of financial stability issues

Recommended reading


---

EBC2019

Period 1
5 Sep 2016
28 Oct 2016

Print course description
ECTS credits:
6.5
Instruction language:
English
Coordinators:
O.C.H.M. Sleijpen
S. Künn
Teaching methods:
PBL
Assessment methods:
Written exam
Corporate governance involves a set of relationships between a company’s management, its board, its shareholders and other stakeholders, and is a key element in improving economic efficiency and growth as well as enhancing investor confidence. Corporate governance also provides the structure through which the objectives of the company are set, and the means of attaining those objectives and monitoring performance. This course examines various contemporary aspects of corporate governance, including issues relating to responsibility, accountability, sustainability, oversight, risk, ethics and incentives. The course is multi-disciplinary, integrating concepts from the disciplines of accounting, finance, law, economics, and business ethics. It will prove most useful to those seeking a thorough introduction to the subject for both academic and applied purposes. While a multiplicity of factors affect the governance and decision-making processes of firms, and are important to their long-term success, this course focuses on governance problems that result from the separation of ownership and control in large enterprises with diffuse ownership. However, this is not simply an issue of the relationship between shareholders and management, although that is indeed a central element. In some jurisdictions, governance issues also arise from the power of certain controlling shareholders over minority shareholders. In other countries, employees have important legal rights irrespective of their ownership rights. In addition, some of the other issues relevant to a company’s decision-making processes, such as environmental, anti-corruption or ethical concerns, are taken into account. Global economic integration has been a key factor in the salience of corporate governance questions. Next to the shareholder-oriented model, one that is today best exemplified by the large Anglo-American public firm, considerable attention is given to international differences in corporate governance. Although corporate governance has been a long-standing issue, the debate on corporate governance issues was given fresh impetus by well publicized corporate problems. These involved creative accounting, spectacular business failures, the apparent ease of unscrupulous directors in expropriating other stakeholders’ funds, the limited role of auditors, the claimed weak link between executive compensation and company performance, and the roles played by the market for corporate control and institutional investors in generating apparently excessive short-term perspectives to the detriment of general economic performance. It is important for business students to get a comprehensive overview of the myriad of issues, both theoretical and practical, arising out of the current debate on creating effective corporate governance. To make the course active, lively and practical, we will use a variety of teaching methods and instruments, including renowned guest speakers from practice.

Course objectives

This course provides students with a comprehensive overview of the myriad of issues, both theoretical and practical, arising out of the current debate on creating effective corporate governance. The key objectives of the course are to help students: (1) Acquire a comprehensive overview of corporate governance; (2) Develop a deep understanding of the key elements of internal and external corporate governance; (3) Gain a general appreciation of institutional differences in corporate governance and many different codes of best practice world wide; and (4) Obtain a good understanding of how to analyse corporate governance in an individual company.

Prerequisites

Students enrolling in this course should have previously completed courses that provide basic knowledge of accounting, finance and strategy.
School of Business and Economics

Auditing

Full course description

The course is aimed at giving students a solid introduction to auditing. The evolution of the auditing function, the role of auditing in a modern economy, the audit process of auditing, as well as the most elementary auditing techniques are discussed. The course is linked to audit practice by means of case-studies, a workshop in collaboration with a large audit firm and a guest lecture.

Course objectives

Solid understanding of the audit process; Basic knowledge of the literature on auditing; Obtain problem solving skills in auditing settings and develop experience in using and interpreting data in common decision contexts.

Prerequisites

"Internal control & accounting systems Knowledge and understanding of internal control and accounting systems (level comparable to: course Internal control & accounting systems). An advanced level of English"

Recommended reading

Textbook and articles
School of Business and Economics
Management Accounting

Full course description

The leading theme of this course is the value of accounting information for decision-making within the firm. The course elaborates on cost accounting and cost management techniques. Some topics in this respect are: Activity Based Costing/Management, Balanced Scorecard, Cost Allocation and Performance Measurement. A selection of such issues will be covered in depth during the course. In addition, this course discusses state-of-the-art articles describing research studies and more popular contemplations regarding cost accounting and especially cost management.

Course objectives

The leading theme of this course is the value of accounting information for decision-making within the firm. The course provides an overview of state-of-the-art advanced cost accounting and cost management techniques. Some topics in this respect are: activity-based costing and activity-based management, performance evaluation (measurement) techniques (scorecards, ...) and cost allocation issues. A selection of such issues will be covered in depth during the course. In addition, this course introduces and discusses both state-of-the-art research studies and more popular contemplations regarding strategic cost accounting and especially cost management.

Prerequisites

"2nd year courses Accounting II (EBC2002) or Finance and Accounting (EBC2007) . This course requires a basic knowledge of accounting procedures. Therefore, students should have at least completed a first year or second year bachelor course in accounting. Ideally, students should also have taken an intermediary course in financial or management accounting. Students that do not have any background in accounting should have a full bachelor degree in business or economics"
Recommended reading

Textbook

EBC2059

Period 4
6 Feb 2017
7 Apr 2017

Print course description
ECTS credits:
6.5
Instruction language:
English
Coordinator:
A. Brüggen
Teaching methods:
PBL, Presentation(s), Assignment(s)
Assessment methods:
Participation, Written exam

Elective Skills

School of Business and Economics
Writing a Review

Full course description

The review is a critical reflection on the literature studied (100 to 200 pages, depending on the academic level of the literature). The review has a length of about 5 pages. The literature to be studied consists of one or more books or articles.

Course objectives

Students learn to write a review

Prerequisites

No specific knowledge required.

Recommended reading

will be announced later on the corresponding Eleum webpage

EBS2029

Year
School of Business and Economics

Excel for Finance

Full course description

The skill covers four core concepts in finance, capital budgeting, valuation, portfolio analysis and the capital asset pricing model through the application of Microsoft Excel's software package. Students will use problems in the text to solve analytical tasks using excel. In addition, students will be taught advanced Excel tools, ranging from mastering advanced Excel functions, pivot tables, to introductory macros. Finally, each week students will test their knowledge through two examinations testing their knowledge on core concepts in finance and excel. This course prepares students for incorporating more advanced Excel knowledge for the business and accounting environment that lays ahead.

Course objectives

This skill reviews core concepts from Finance 1.5 within the context of Microsoft Excel software's concepts and tools.

Prerequisites

Exchange students need to have taken at least one introductory finance course

Recommended reading

Principles of Finance with Excel by Simon Beninga.
While most entrepreneurs are searching for innovative solutions to improve firm performance and managers attempt to organise processes in the firm to optimize performance, there is always the threat that others misuse the opportunities provided by the firm in an illegal way. These problems can be caused both by people in and outside the firm. In practice the legal system and police protection do not fully protect firms against this threat. Additional measures by firms are required for which there is always a trade-off between the costs of these measures and the potential costs of fraud and crime. This skills training develops understanding of why the practices of a firm could provide incentives for criminal behaviour and what firms can do to reduce these problems. Based on cases problems of crime and fraud will be discussed while students in groups work on a plan to limit the costs of fraud and crime for a specific firm.

Course objectives

- Understanding of how fraud and crime can threat the performance of a firm. 
- Understanding of the mechanisms generating fraud and crime and possibilities for firms to reduce the potential negative consequences.

Prerequisites

An advanced level of English
Firms and organisations are always looking for innovative practices to improve their performance. But how do they know that a new approach is really better than the old practice? A new marketing program, changes in human resources tools, new training programs, changes at schools or new approaches to combat traffic jams or fight crime: all have to deal with the question to what extent they will really improve outcomes and what elements are responsible for this result. This requires systematic comparison and therefore experimentation is the best way to learn. Recently new tools have been developed to learn by experimentation.

Course objectives

- Understanding of problems and pitfalls in the implementation of innovative practices in firms and organisations;
- Knowledge about tools for systematic experimentation to support innovations;
- Basic understanding of statistical packages needed to evaluate experiments.
or sports event, etc.) using the tools of cost-benefit analysis. The results of this evaluation are reported in a presentation and a paper.

**Course objectives**

Students acquire the skill to apply the basic principles of cost-benefit analysis.

**Prerequisites**

Introductory courses in microeconomics and public economics.

**Recommended reading**

Introductory texts about cost-benefit analysis.

---

**EBS2059**

**Period 6**

12 Jun 2017

7 Jul 2017

[Print course description](#)

**ECTS credits:**

4.0

**Coordinator:**

[K.G.M. Bosmans](#)

**Teaching methods:**

Presentation(s), Lecture(s), Assignment(s), Paper(s)

**Assessment methods:**

Final paper, Attendance

---

**School of Business and Economics**

**From curiosity to the research process**

**Full course description**

Starting point for the course is an activity that is common to all people: observations. Students, policymakers, consultants, managers, all try to understand the world around them. This could be the tutorial group, a country, a company, or a department and ask them self what is going on here? If you understand the world around you, you are able to take appropriate action.

In this specific course you will get an insight of how to understand the world around you. Based on your own curiosity and observations you conduct a small scale research, following the next steps: observations, start asking questions; start thinking about explanations, what is going on? trying to find patterns, theory building; answering the questions by observations. We will also pay attention to the advantages and disadvantages of observations.

We choose not to use difficult theories, research methods or statistical analysis, but rather to use your own interest, simple phenomena and simple research methods. This approach means that you can
focus on your own thinking and research process, rather than be distracted by difficult theories or statistical methods. The acquired skills are useful for more advanced courses, papers and master thesis.

The skill is organized as follows. First, we will stimulate your curiosity by observations and thinking. You will ask yourself “What is going on”. Next, this will be translated to your own research question. So, you can follow your own interest. Subsequently, you will gather data by simple observations or experiments. We don’t make use of statistical techniques to analyse the data, but will prefer tables and figures. You will report your findings in a paper. Completing the course with a good result will make you eligible for the marble programme.

Course objectives

As a result of the skill students will be able to transfer their curiosity and observations into research questions, appropriate data gathering and reporting. Therefore the focus will be on research skills, communication skills and learning skills. The course is a good preparation for understanding academic articles and all real life situations you will run into in later life.

Recommended reading

Recommended articles

**EBS2060**

Period 6
12 Jun 2017
7 Jul 2017

[Print course description](#)

ECTS credits: 4.0

Coordinator: [J.F.H. Nijhuis](#)

Teaching methods:
Lecture(s), Assignment(s), PBL, Presentation(s)

Assessment methods:
Final paper, Participation