UCLouvain

becge1210

Microeconomics

6.00 credits 45.0 h + 15.0 h Q1

Teacher(s)	Wauthy Xavier ;				
Language :	French				
Place of the course	Bruxelles Saint-Louis				
Prerequisites	The prerequisite(s) for this Teaching Unit (Unité d'enseignement – UE) for the programmes/courses that offer this Teaching Unit are specified at the end of this sheet.				
Learning outcomes	At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to: • Define the main microeconomic concepts and specify their scope. • Carry out a formalized economic analysis by systematic mathematical modeling of individual behavior and their impact on the allocation of economic resources in markets. • Use this formalization to analyze the mechanisms underlying the economic facts observed. • Demonstrate the main results necessary for the construction and characterization of market equilibrium, in perfect and imperfect competition. • Propose a stylized but coherent analysis of simple economic phenomena based on the individual behavior of the agents concerned. • Use mathematical language to formalize simple economic problems. • Discuss the role of the assumptions used to establish the main results of the course. • Discuss the relevance of these findings to the analysis of real economic situations. • Apply theoretical models to solve exercises. • Define the main microeconomic concepts and specify their scope.				
Evaluation methods	Certifying evaluation: Written examination in sessions of examinations covering both theoretical questions, exercise resolutions and simple applications of theory to problems inspired by economic reality. In case the exam is organized in distancial mode, the exam is "open books"; in case the exam is organized in presential mode, the exam is closed books. 12 points for the theory, 8 points for the exercices. Formative evaluation: the questions asked during the lectures allow students to situate their level of understanding of the class material taught in previous lectures. Furthermore, the availability of a portfolio of solved exercises allow				
Teaching methods	A) The lecture Lectures of theoretical developments with students' participation via questions asked by the teacher. B) TA sessions Resolution of exercises by the students under the guidance of the assistants. It is recommended that the students must first review the material that is dealt with.				
Content	The course covers the central areas of analysis of individual economic behavior (microeconomics) and their relation to the market, so as to propose a first formalization of economic exchanges, resulting in the allocation of scarce resources based on the decentralization of decisions via market prices. In the first part, we analyze, on the one hand, consumer behavior and, on the other, the behavior of the firm in perfect competition based on the analysis of production technologies. The characterization and main properties of short and long term competitive equilibrium are studied in a partial equilibrium context. In a second part the competitive equilibrium model is introduced using the construction of demand functions for goods and services from the mathematical formalization of consumer behavior. The analytical framework of an exchange economy is formalized. The problem of general equilibrium and efficiency in the allocation of resources is addressed in this context. In a third part we study one of the main sources of market failure: information asymmetry. If time permits, the other main source of market failure will be addressed: imperfect competition (monopoly, oligopolies).				
Inline resources	The course's slides as well as the exercice folder are available on the moodle page of the course				
Bibliography	Introduction à la microéconomie", Hal R. Varian, 8° édition française, De Boeck Université.				
Other infos	Didactic materials offered to students: - copy of the slides used during the lectures and taking notes during the course - portfolio of exercises with partial solutions.				

Université catholique de Louvain - Microeconomics - en-cours-2024-becge1210

Faculty or entity in	ESPB
charge	

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)							
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes			
Bachelor in Economics and Management	ECGB1BA	6	BECGE1110	Q			
Bachelor : Business Engineering	INGB1BA	6	BECGE1110	Q.			