

Course Outline

Course number	RBB131				
Course title	Macroeconomics				
Total hours	80				
Lecture hours	26				
Seminar and other hours	6				
Course level	Bachelor				
Prerequisites	None				
Category	Mandatory	X	Restricted elective		Free elective

COURSE RESPONSIBLE

<i>Name</i>	<i>Academic degree</i>	<i>Academic position</i>
Paolo Paesani	PhD	Professor

COURSE TEACHERS

<i>Name</i>	<i>Academic degree</i>	<i>Academic position</i>
Paolo Paesani	PhD	Professor

COURSE ABSTRACT

Macroeconomics describes how economic systems work and explores issues such as: economic growth, business cycle, inflation, unemployment, investment, international trade and international capital mobility. Macroeconomics also analyses the interdependence between banks, financial markets and the real economy. The course will present all major macroeconomic variables and how they interact in the context of the global economy plus how the government via fiscal policy and the central bank via monetary policy can influence these variables. Latvia and economic policy in Latvia will be used extensively via examples.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- **Knowledge**
- Understand the basic principles of macroeconomics and macroeconomic policy.
- Understand the main elements of money, banking and finance and their interaction with the real economy.
- **Competencies**
- Apply notions in the areas of macroeconomics and monetary economics to real-world situations with a specific focus on Latvia and its economy.
- Outline and give a detailed explanation of the main drivers of economic growth and inflation.
- Assess the macroeconomic implications of fiscal policy and monetary policy.

- **Skills**
- Critically discuss and debate a range of current macroeconomic issues.
- Express articulated views about macroeconomic and monetary issues.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of monetary policy, fiscal policy and supply side policies.
- Present methodically and clearly in their own words, views about macroeconomic issues.

GRADING CRITERIA

Criteria	Weighting
Class Presentations	20 %
Mid Term Exam (multiple choice)	30%
Final Exam (open questions)	50 %

COURSE PLAN – MAIN SUBJECTS

No.	Subject	Planned hours
1	GDP, GDP per capita, growth, inflation	4
2	Firms, employer-employee relationship, the labour market	4
3	Banking, money and interest rates	4
4	Economic fluctuations and unemployment	4
5	Unemployment and fiscal policy	5
6	Inflation, unemployment, and monetary policy	5