# Monetary economics

## Prof. Marco Lossani

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The primary purpose of this course is to give participants a sound grounding in monetary economics. The course aims at providing the logical framework and the basic tools useful to understand the reasons why money exists; the link – in the short as well as in the long run – between money, interest rates and prices; the way monetary policy is managed. Theoretical lectures will be supplemented by several case-studies taken from the recent evolution of monetary and financial markets.

At the end of the course students will:

1. know the most important determinants of money demand;
2. know the most important components of money supply;
3. understand the role played by Central Banks and the relevance of the institutional framework;
4. understand the main features of monetary policy strategy and transmission mechanisms;
5. command the technical jargon useful to communicate efficiently the acquired knowledge;
6. command the knowledge of stylized facts and theoretical models that enable them to attend successfully advanced monetary economics courses.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course is divided in two units:

*Money Demand and Supply.* Definitions and functions of money. Definitions and determinants of interest rates: risk structure and term structure of interest rates. Money demand models: Inventory approach to the demand for money; portfolio model of the demand for money. Money supply: main components. The relation between monetary base and money: the money multiplier.

*Central Banks and Monetary policy.* Goals and structure of Central Banks. Central Bank independence. Monetary policy strategy. Monetary policy tactics. The Taylor rule. Transmission mechanisms of monetary policy. Comparing monetary policy before and after the Great Recession. Monetary policy after COVID-19.

***READING LIST[[1]](#footnote-1)***

F.S. Mishkin-K. Matthews-M. Giuliodori, *The economics of money,* *banking and financial markets*, European edition, 2013.

F.S. Mishkin, *Macroeconomics. Policy and Practice,* New York, Pearson, Global Edition, 2015.

Additional material will be provided on Blackboard.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures and discussion of case studies

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Written exam, open ended questions on the whole program, two-hour long. The exam will assess the knowledge of the theoretical models and stylized facts of monetary economics and the understanding of the basic features of monetary policy.

This written exam can be replaced by two tests, each one-hour long, both concurring on equal terms to the definition of the final grade. The mid-term will take place during the break of the second quarter (February 2021) while the second test will be organized at the end of the second quarter (April 2021).

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Basic knowledge of microeconomics and macroeconomics is requested.

In case the current Covid-19 health emergency does not allow frontal teaching, remote teaching will be carried out following procedures that will be promptly notified to students.

1. I testi indicati nella bibliografia sono acquistabili presso le librerie di Ateneo; è possibile acquistarli anche presso altri rivenditori. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)