Economic Policy (Growth policies)

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

* Knowledge and understanding.

The course aims to further develop students' economic preparation, with particular reference to the distributive and economic policy implications inherent in the configurations and behaviours of markets subject to imperfections. The course aims to provide students with specific knowledge and skills on the topics of welfare economy, growth economy, equity and income distribution, and on the possibilities of economic policy intervention, articulated in its various components.

* Ability to apply knowledge and understanding.

With reference to the ability to apply knowledge and contents learned, at the end of the course, students will be able to analyse economic policy choices, and to place and interpret them in the most general economic and institutional context.

* Independent judgment.

The course aims to provide a systemic framework of reference that can help students acquire new awareness and independent judgment, and therefore learn to operate in national and international companies and institutions.

* Communication skills.

At the end of the course, students will be able to apply and communicate the knowledge described above through outlining reference schemes for effective policies in solving market failures.

* Learning skills.

At the end of the course, students will have developed not only their cognitive skills (that refer to the specific content and competences of this course), but also the meta-cognitive ones (that refer to other transversal abilities, such as independent judgment, critical skills, and communication skills).

***COURSE CONTENT***

1. Introduction, analytical instruments, macroeconomic evidence
2. The trade-off between efficiency and equity; economy of well-being and growth
3. Market failures and economic policy interventions
4. Growth and productivity: determinants and intervention policies
5. Growth, technology and employment: determinants and intervention policies
6. Growth, technology and professions: determinants and intervention policies
7. Growth and equity: determinants and intervention policies
8. Growth, demography and inequality
9. Old and new inequalities
10. Growth and redistributive policies
11. Institutional context and policies to promote equity
12. Government failures and policy evaluation

***READING LIST***

Instructional material (course packs, slides, chapters, articles, and statistics) will be made available on-line on *Blackboard* platform.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Acquisition of knowledge is tested through a written exam. This test consists of open-ended questions on theoretical issues, on the models and demonstrations discussed in class and on the economic policy implications. The students’ answers will be assessed based on their analytical competences, reasoning skills, and argumentation structure. All the questions are assessed analytically with a mark on a 30-point scale, and the final mark corresponds to the average – rounded up if necessary - of the scores obtained for each question.

There will be no interim tests.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

In order to get the most out of this course, students should have a basic knowledge of microeconomics and macroeconomics.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG, or on the Faculty notice board.