

# Course Descriptions Exchange 2015-2016

Course Title Cost-Benefit Analysis  
 Course Code EBS2059  
 ECTS Credits 4,0  
 Assessment Whole/Half Grades

Period	Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
6		13-6-2016	24-6-2016	-				

Level Intermediate  
 Coordinator Kristof Bosmans For more information:k.bosmans@maastrichtuniversity.nl  
 Language of instruction English  
 Goals Ability to take the steps that are necessary in a cost-benefit analysis of a public or semi-public/private project.  
 - Ability to correctly apply principles of public economics.  
 - Improvement of writing and presentation skills.

Description Starting point of this skills training is the observation that a substantial number of (public) projects, once carried out, require substantial subsidisation. Think of, for example, the Millennium Dome in the UK, the 'Treuhand Anstalt' in Germany, or the 'Betuwelijn' in the Netherlands. For some projects this is a mere confirmation of the results from the ex-ante cost benefit analysis, but for other projects, this cost benefit analysis actually predicted a positive return. In this skills training, an ex post analysis of the actual costs and benefits of a project which was implemented or started in the past is made. An important component of such an analysis is a correct determination of (public) prices. Moreover, if an ex ante cost-benefit analysis of the project was carried out, this analysis is scrutinized in light of the ex post analysis.  
 The students have to form teams of two or three people. After reading the mandatory literature, each team searches for two projects one of which they would like to make a cost-benefit analysis of. At the end of the first week each team presents these projects and a choice for one of the two projects is made. Then, at the end of the second week, reports on the cost-benefit analyses are presented.

Literature Introductory chapters and papers about cost-benefit analysis and project evaluation.

Prerequisites Introductory courses in microeconomics and public economics.

Teaching methods Presentation / Lecture / Assignment / Groupwork

Assessment methods Final Paper / Attendance

Evaluation in previous academic year For the complete evaluation of this course please click <http://iwio-sbe.maastrichtuniversity.nl/rapporten.asp?referrer=codeUM>

This course belongs to the following programme / specialisation

Bachelor Economics and Business Economics Specialisation Economics	Elective Skills
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics Specialisation Economics and Management of Information	Elective Skills
Bachelor Economics and Business Economics Specialisation International Business Economics	Elective Skills
Bachelor Fiscal Economics	Year 2-3 Elective Skills
Bachelor International Business	Year 2-3 Elective skills
SBE Exchange Bachelor	Bachelor Exchange Skills
SBE Exchange Master	Bachelor Exchange Skills
SBE Non Degree Courses	Bachelor Skills