

Course Descriptions Master 2019-2020

Course Title Advanced Macroeconomics
 Course Code EBC4234
 ECTS Credits 5,0
 Assessment Whole/Half Grades

Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	28-10-2019	20-12-2019	X		X		

Level Advanced
 Coordinator Adriaan van Zon For more information: adriaan.vanzon@maastrichtuniversity.nl
 Language of instruction English

Goals The goal is to understand the sources of economic growth and of growth rate differentials between countries. We use modern growth theory but also catching-up theory to shed light on these issues, and we use international macro-data to identify and quantify aforementioned international growth differentials between (clusters of) countries and tendencies for convergence and/or divergence within and between clusters of countries. Students will develop a deep understanding of the relationship between economic growth and distribution issues and the policies affecting these.

Description Modern growth-theory is concerned with explaining the trend in output per capita and how that trend could be influenced through growth policies. It focusses in particular on the accumulation of human capital and technology that are generally thought to be the drivers of growth. It also emphasizes the role of economic incentives which influence such accumulation decisions. Changing incentive schemes through policy interventions then makes it possible to influence growth performance. Identifying such growth policies is of crucial importance, because in many parts of the world growth is a way to elevate people out of poverty. In other parts of the world it is a way to improve the quality of life not just by increasing consumption of goods and services but also of intangibles like environmental quality. Modern growth theory has turned the growth process from something that was largely out of the control of human beings (i.e. exogenous) into something that actually is the result of interactions between human beings and decisions made by human beings, which makes growth endogenous as these decisions are incentive driven. The endogeneity of growth then turns growth performance at least in part into a policy matter. The course consists of three parallel activities: 1) the study of the underlying theories, 2) execution of computer assignments, and, also as part of those assignments, 3) the review and analysis of alternative growth policies. The computer assignments involve the group-wise measurement of international growth performance, including divergence and convergence issues, as well as the implementation of dynamic policy simulation models that will be used to investigate the effectiveness of alternative growth policy options.

Literature
 Prerequisites
 Keywords

Teaching methods PBL
 Assessment methods Written Exam / Assignment

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

Master Economics - Education and Labour Economics	Compulsory Course(s)
Master Economics - Global Challenges and Macroeconomic Policy	Compulsory Course(s)
Master Economics - Market Regulation and Design	Compulsory Course(s)
Master Economics - No specialisation	Compulsory Course(s)
SBE Exchange Master	Master Exchange Courses