Course Descriptions None 2013-2014

Course Title	Innovation in Business and Economic Growth
Course Code	EBC2148
ECTS Credits	6,5
Assessment	None

Period

Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
5	14-4-2014	6-6-2014		X			X

Level	Intermediate
Coordinator	Bart Verspagen For more information:b.verspagen@maastrichtuniversity.nl
Language of instruction	English
Goals	This course looks at the role of innovation in the modern economy, and more in particular at how governments can increase the competitive position of their country and the firms in it, by stimulating innovation. The goal of the course is to write a document in which advice is offered to the government with regard to innovation policy. The document will address a specific question related to innovation, such as whether or not government should stimulate the location of R&D activities by foreign firms in the Netherlands. The course manual will guide the students through the process of preparing an informed opinion about this question, and writing this up in a background document.
Description	This course looks at innovation from within the firm, and investigates how innovation processes contribute to economic growth. Firms do not act in isolation: they need to confront themselves with the changing conditions of the economy and society of which they are part. The proposed literature covers notions of knowledge, innovation, and technology (innovation systems, general purpose technologies), their Organisational patterns (networks, clusters, and global value chains), and firms' innovation strategies in modern contexts (dispersed R&D, markets for technology). In order to develop theoretically grounded innovation strategies, the course combines a theoretical perspective with practical elements on innovation processes in firms. Each tutorial is divided in two parts: in the first the assigned literature is reviewed and discussed, in the second theoretical insights are applied to the business cases on which students (in groups) work during the course. The business case addresses one of the four scenarios outlined in the CPB report (reference below), is guided by a set of questions and discussed during the tutorials. This course provides business students with the dual opportunity to develop their understanding of innovation processes within firms and understand how managerial decisions shape and are shaped by economic, social, and technological conditions.
Literature	ter Weel, B., van der Horst, A., and Gelauff, G. (2010), The Netherlands of 2040, CPB Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis. Journal articles
Prerequisites	an advanced level of English
Teaching methods	PBL
Assessment methods	Written Exam
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 International Business Economics	Economics Electives
Bachelor International Business	Economics Electives
SBE Exchange Bachelor	Bachelor Courses
SBE Exchange Master	Bachelor Courses
SBE Non Degree Courses	Bachelor Courses