

Course Descriptions None 2025-2026

Course Title Society Through the Lens of Economists
 Course Code EBC2194
 ECTS Credits 6,5
 Assessment Whole/Half Grades

Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	27-10-2025	12-12-2025		X		X	

Level Intermediate
 Coordinator Steffen Kuenn For more information:s.kuenn@maastrichtuniversity.nl
 Language of instruction English

Goals
 * Being able to analyse a wide range of social phenomena from an economic point of view
 * Understand how economic theory explains individuals' behaviour, institutions, and society in general
 * Being able to read and evaluate empirical research analysing these issues
 * Understand basic econometric tools with which empirical claims about causality can be established

Description
 Discrimination, crime, marriage, fertility, education or religion are all examples for key parts of our societies. The behaviour of people and the design of institutions in these social contexts has major consequences for the society (including policy and the economy as a whole). Economists claim that the economic approach is useful in explaining human behaviour and social interactions in such settings and hence helps to better understand the functioning of societies. This in turn will help to design policies helping to achieve societal goals. This course will analyse different social phenomena through the lens of economists. It trains students to understand and analyse a wide range of social phenomena from an economic point of view and to investigate and interpret these issues empirically. In particular, students are given a thorough understanding of how social phenomena can be analysed from an economic perspective and they get an introduction to econometric tools with which empirical claims about causality can be established.

Literature A selection of academic articles.

Prerequisites
 Basic understanding of economic theory and quantitative methods.An advanced level of English.

Keywords

Transitional Regulations
 <div class="trreg"><div class="subtitle">TRANSITIONAL REGULATIONS</div><ul class="trcohorts">Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics [2024-2025 or earlier]From 2025-2026 onwards, education and exam/resit opportunities are offered.
Alternative options may be available. See the Bachelor EER 2025-2026 Appendix I Article 16 for more information.<table><col style="width: 200px;"><col style="width: 120px;"><col style="width: 120px;"><thead><tr><th>Academic Year</th><th>Education</th><th>Exam/Resit</th><th>Replacement(s)</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>2025-2026 onwards</td><td>X</td><td>X</td><td>See the Bachelor EER 2025-2026 Appendix I Article 16 for more information</td></tr></tbody></table></div>

Teaching methods PBL / Presentation / Lecture / Assignment

Assessment methods Attendance / 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	Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - Economics	Year 3 Economics Electives
	Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - Emerging Markets	Year 3 Elective Courses
	Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - Economics and Management of Information	Year 3 Economics Elective
	Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics	In transition - Maj Accounting - Economics Elec
	Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics	In transition - Maj Finance - Economics Elec
	Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics	In transition - Maj Inf Mgmt - Economics Elec
	Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics	In transition - Maj Marketing - Economics Elec
	Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics	In transition - Maj Org - Economics Elec
	Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics	In transition - Maj SCM - Economics Elec
	Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics	In transition - Maj Strategy - Economics Elec
	Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics	Year 3 Economics Elective
	Bachelor Econometrics and Operations Research	Year 3 Elective Courses
	Bachelor Fiscal Economics	Annex 1 Electives
	SBE Exchange Bachelor	Bachelor Exchange Courses
	SBE Exchange Master	Bachelor Exchange Courses
SBE Non Degree Courses	Bachelor Courses	