Course Contents of M.A. Economics

Eco-701 Microeconomics-I 3(3-0)

Course objective
To strengthen the understanding of the operation of a firm and household’s economic decision making.

Course Contents
Supply and demand curve at the individual and market level, Market equilibrium price and quantity; Impact of changes in supply and demand on market equilibrium; Theory of consumer behaviour, Consumer choice and theory of demand; Cardinal & ordinal utility; Marginal utility; Equi-marginal principle; Income and substitution effects of price changes; Derivation of individual and market demand curve; Elasticity of demand; The concept and estimation of price elasticity of demand and supply and their determinants; Income and cross elasticity of demand; How prices emerge from supply and demand in freely competitive market situation. Under what scenarios free market mechanism fails and role of government under such situation, Theory of production and derivation of profit maximization,

Suggested readings

Eco-702 Microeconomics-II 3(3-0)

Course objective
To enhance the understanding of a firm’s decision making about the use of resources and its interaction with individuals and other firms for resource allocation.

Course Contents
Axioms for consumer preferences; Concept of utility function; Demand relationships among goods; Demand and elasticity; Exchange, marginal rate substitution (MRS); Convexity of indifference curve or diminishing marginal rate of substitution; Assumptions of perfect competition; Equilibrium in short-run and long-run in case of perfect competition; The impact of shift in market demand, change in cost of production and imposition of tax on market equilibrium; Pareto optimality and choice under risk; Production function; Diminishing marginal rate of substitution or convexity of isoquant; Shape of the production function; Homogeneity and return to scale, elasticity of substitution; Measurement of technical progress Cost, profit and revenue functions; Models of perfect and imperfect competition; Demand and supply of factors of production; Externalities and public goods.

Suggested readings

Eco-703 Macroeconomics-I 3(3-0)

Course objective
To develop a coherent thinking about the determination of macroeconomic variables such as national output, economic growth, and unemployment.
Course contents
Introduction to macroeconomics; National income accounting; Growth and accumulation; Growth and policy; Aggregate demand and supply; Aggregate supply-wages; Prices and unemployment; Inflation and unemployment; Policy preview; Income and spending model; Money, interest and income; Monetary and fiscal policy; International linkages.

Suggested readings

Eco-704 Macroeconomics-II 3(3-0)

Course objective
To improve the understanding of supply and demand decisions at macro-level decision making.

Course contents
Introduction to behavioural foundations: Consumption and saving, investment spending, the demand for money, money and credit, financial markets, policy preview; Economics of depression, hyperinflation and deficits; International adjustments and interdependence.

Suggested readings

Eco-705 Economic Statistics 2(2-0)

Course objective
To provide a solid foundation in statistics for economists and other social scientists.

Course contents
Introduction to statistics and its use in social sciences; Descriptive and inferential statistics; Summarization of data; Random variables and common probability distributions; Conditional probability; Statistical independence, covariance and correlation; Tests of hypothesis; Analysis of variance, Statistical sampling: point and interval estimation, inferences based on two samples; Tests of goodness of fit; Contingency tables and regression analysis.

Suggested readings

Eco-706 Econometrics-I 3(3-0)

Course objective
To enhance the understanding about econometric models and their estimation techniques.

Course contents
Specification, estimation, verification / evaluation and forecasting; The simple linear regression model (SLRM) and ordinary least squares; The multiple linear regression model (MLRM) and estimation, its assumptions, interpretation of estimated coefficients and their economic meanings; Testing the significance of individual coefficients; Multicollinearity, heteroskedasticity, autocorrelation and model misspecification; Methods for detection and remedial measures; Regression analysis for dummy dependent variable; Qualitative response models.
Suggested readings

Eco-707 Econometrics-II 3(3-0)

Course objective
To enhance the understanding about the econometric models for discrete and limited dependent variables and their estimation techniques.

Course contents
Review of basic concepts of econometrics; Distributed and autoregressive lag models; VAR models; Finite and infinite distribution lags, etc; Adaptive expectations, partial adjustment and rational expectations models; Simultaneous equation models; Identification of problems; Indirect least squares, 2SLS, 3SLS and seemingly unrelated regression models; Qualitative response models; Panel methods and count models.

Suggested readings

Eco-708 Economic Development 3(3-0)

Course objective
To provide an understanding how the economies of developing countries function and can be influenced by policy and institutional reforms.

Course contents
Economics, institutions, and development: A global perspective; Theories of underdevelopment and growth; Historic growth and contemporary development: Lessons and controversies; Growth, poverty and income distribution; Population growth and economic development: Causes, consequences and controversies; Unemployment: issues, dimensions and analyses; Urbanization and rural-urban migration: Theory and policy; Education and development; Environment and development; Foreign financing, investment and aid: Controversies and opportunities.

Suggested readings
Eco-709       Public Finance     3(3-0)

Course objective
To improve the understanding of public financial management and fiscal policy.

Course contents
Introduction to public finance; Role of government; Measuring the size and scope of the government; The structure of the government; Decision making in the public sector; Equity, income distribution and the social safety net; Government expenditures and budget; Public goods; Dealing with externalities, Budgeting in public sector; Borrowing; Debt servicing; Public finance in Islam.

Suggested readings

Eco-710       Benefit-Cost Analysis     3(3-0)

Course objective
To improve the understanding about the methodologies for evaluating large-scale public projects.

Course contents
Principles of cost-benefit analysis; Various aspects of project preparation, analysis and evaluation; Identification of costs and benefits, with and without project approach, treatment of transfer payments, pricing of costs and benefits; finding market prices for costs and benefits; determining economic values; Comparison of costs and benefits; Undiscounted measures of project worth; the time value of money; discounted measures of project worth BCR-NPW-IRR, Introduction to the concepts of social benefit-cost analysis; the equity and efficiency considerations; application of these concepts; Exercises and case studies.

Suggested readings

Eco-711       Business Management     3(3-0)

Course objective
To demonstrate knowledge and understanding of business and management concepts.

Course contents
Nature and scope of business activity, business functions, types of business organizations, components of successful business; Sources of finance; Definition of management, functions of management: Planning, organizing, actuating and controlling; Organizational structure, fundamental organizational units, unity of command, authority, power, responsibility, accountability, staffing; Executive selection model; Leadership and management; Traits of a good manager, motivation, participative management, crisis management and contingency planning; Communication; Communication, channels and types; Management control and control process, Financial records, financial ratios and break-even analysis.
Suggested readings

Eco-712 Resource Economics 3(3-0)

Course objective
To familiarize students with the main economic models of natural resource use.

Course Contents
Type of resources; Concept of resource scarcity; Renewable and exhaustible resources; growth curves, the rate of exploitation, cost and revenue, Profit maximization level to harvest the renewable resources; Property rights, open excess and common property solution; Socially desirable level of harvest; Overtime allocation of resources; The concept of user cost; Extraction of exhaustible resources; Economic efficiency, intertemporal efficiency and sources of inefficiency; Economic policy criteria; Biological resources; Environment; Valuation and management.

Suggested readings
4. Randall, A. 1987. Resource Economics; An Economic Approach to Natural Resources and Environmental Policy. 2nd Ed. John Willey and Sons, New York, USA.

Eco-713 Agricultural Economics 3(3-0)

Course objective
To introduce agricultural economics and its significance in Pakistan’s economy.

Course contents
Significance of agricultural economics, Pakistan food and fiber systems; Production technology and decision making under competitive and uncertain conditions; Farm markets and policy; Macroeconomic policy and agriculture; Introduction to resource economics and environmental policy, Agricultural finance; agricultural business, Agricultural trade and policy, Economics of agricultural markets.

Suggested readings
Eco-714  International Economics  3(3-0)

Course objective
To improve the understanding of students regarding international business and trade between the countries.

Course contents
Introduction to International trade; International equilibrium with increasing costs; The Heckscher-Ohlin model and alternative trade theories; Growth and trade; The theory of tariffs; Instruments of commercial policy and customs unions. The foreign exchange market and the balance of payments; The price and income adjustment mechanism; Fiscal and monetary policy for internal, External balance and exchange rate; The monetary approach and the international monetary system.

Suggested readings

Eco- 715   WTO Agreements   3(3-0)

Course objective
To familiarize students with the WTO agreements and their implication in developing countries.

Course contents
Introduction of WTO, Functions and basic principles; Reciprocity in WTO and WTO accession; Market access issues; Agreement on agriculture (AOA); Tariff peaks and preferences; Domestic export subsidy; Sanitary and phyto sanitary measures (SPS); Rules of origin; custom valuation and custom reforms, trade facilitation, industrial policy; Export development policies and institutions; Trade related investment measures; Local content policies and safeguards; The GATS: Key features and sectors; liberalization of trade in services and developing countries; International technology transfer and economic development, implementing the TRIPS Agreement, Trademarks, Geographical Indications and developing countries, Standards, regulations and trade: Developing country concerns, Trade and labor, Environmental regulations, Developing countries: Turning participation into influence, Implementation of WTO commitments, Special and differential treatment; Dispute resolution mechanism; Implications of WTO rules and regulations for developing countries; Case studies.

Suggested readings

Eco-725   Research Report

Students will prepare a report on research problem relating to economics issues. The purpose is to make students familiar with research process.