

EC135-15 Topics in Micro and Public Economics

26/27

Department

Economics

Level

Undergraduate Level 1

Module leader

Claudia Rei

Credit value

15

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% exam

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module provides students with an opportunity to study a variety of topics drawn from the broad field of applied economics and exposes students to teaching delivered by leading researchers in specialist fields of economics.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

The module aims to provide students with an opportunity to study a variety of topics drawn from the broad field of applied economics. The width of the discipline implies that in any one year there will be some specialist fields of Economics which are not covered in the menu of core and optional modules; this module seeks to provide exposure to some of these fields. A complementary aim is to offer a module in which first year students can benefit from teaching delivered by leading researchers in the specialist field. Each year, the topics covered within the module are likely to change to reflect the heterogeneity of specialist research interests of teaching staff, the changing issues within the discipline and the changing topics taught elsewhere within the Economics degree programmes.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

The syllabus each year will cover up to three topics selected from within the broad area of 'Applied Economics'. The selection will be drawn from all sub-fields within the discipline, including labour, industrial, development, trade, behavioural, experimental, financial, public, health, education, history, environmental, ethics, philosophy, happiness, and auctions. This list will expand as reflecting staff interests. In years in which other first year 15 CATS optional modules do not run, one possibility will be to compress them into topics within this module. In selecting topics, the main criteria will include:

- (i) scope for the topic to provide a context in which, through application, students can begin to develop their understanding of key concepts in economics and applied economics,
- (ii) importance of the topic within the general field of Economics,
- (iii) policy relevance of the topic,
- (iv) complementing topics covered elsewhere within the degree programmes.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Subject Knowledge and Understanding:...demonstrate a familiarity with and basic understanding of research issues; familiarity with contemporary empirical debates and latest research in some specialized areas of economics; understanding of how to approach an economic problem from the perspective of a contemporary researcher in economics.
- Cognitive Skills:...demonstrate capacity of analytical thinking, reasoning and application.
- Cognitive Skills:...demonstrate capacity of critical, creative and strategic thinking.
- Cognitive Skills:...demonstrate capacity of abstraction and problem solving.
- Cognitive Skills:...demonstrate capacity of policy evaluation and the analysis of institutions.
- Subject Knowledge and Understanding:...demonstrate a familiarity with and basic understanding of economic information; knowledge of specific economic trends and patterns; understanding of particular problems and solutions in economic measurement.
- Subject Knowledge and Understanding:...demonstrate a familiarity with and basic understanding of economic principles; knowledge and understanding of core concepts and methods in micro and macroeconomics.
- Subject Knowledge and Understanding:...demonstrate a familiarity with and basic understanding of applied economics; knowledge and understanding of standard economic models and quantitative techniques with application to contemporary problems arising in public policy and the private sector.
- Subject-specific and Professional Key General Skills:...demonstrate a basic understanding of research skills such as: Data skills: use of library and internet as information sources; knowledge of how to locate relevant data, extract appropriate data, analyse and present material.
- Subject-specific and Professional Key General Skills:...demonstrate a basic understanding of research skills such as: Mathematical/Statistical skills: use/application of mathematics and

diagrams in economic analysis; understanding of statistical analysis of data.

- Subject-specific and Professional Key General Skills:...demonstrate a basic understanding of research skills such as: Written communication skills.

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

[Specific reading list for the module](#)

Subject specific skills

Applied Economics
Economic information
Economic principles
Research and debate
Abstraction
Analysis of incentives
Analysis of institutions
Analytical reasoning
Analytical thinking and communication
Critical thinking
Policy evaluation
Problem solving
Strategic thinking
Sustainability

Transferable skills

Numeracy and quantitative skills
Research skills
Math, Statistical, data-based research skills
Oral communication
Written communication

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	20 sessions of 1 hour (13%)
Private study	130 hours (87%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

Private study will be required in order to prepare for seminars/classes, to review lecture notes, to prepare for forthcoming assessments, tests, and exams, and to undertake wider reading around the subject

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group B5

Assessment component	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Centrally-timetabled examination (On-campus)	100%		No
A paper which examines the course content and ensures learning outcomes are achieved.			

- Answerbook Pink (12 page)
- Students may use a calculator

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

The Department of Economics is committed to providing high quality and timely feedback to students on their assessed work, to enable them to review and continuously improve their work. We are dedicated to ensuring feedback is returned to students within 20 University working days of their assessment deadline. Feedback for assignments is returned either on a standardised assessment feedback cover sheet which gives information both by tick boxes and by free comments or via free text comments on tabula, together with the annotated assignment. For tests and problem sets, students receive solutions as an important form of feedback and their marked assignment, with a breakdown of marks and comments by question and sub-question. Students

are informed how to access their feedback, either by collecting from the Undergraduate Office or via tabula. Module leaders often provide generic feedback for the cohort outlining what was done well, less well, and what was expected on the assignment and any other common themes. This feedback also includes a cumulative distribution function with summary statistics so students can review their performance in relation to the cohort. This feedback is in addition to the individual-specific feedback on assessment performance.

[Past exam papers for EC135](#)

Availability

Pre-requisites

Co-requisite module: EC122 or EC124 and EC139 or EC140

Courses

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 1 of UIPA-L1L8 Undergraduate Economic Studies and Global Sustainable Development

This module is Optional for:

- UECA-3 Undergraduate Economics 3 Year Variants
 - Year 1 of L100 Economics
 - Year 1 of L116 Economics and Industrial Organization
- Year 1 of UECA-LM1D Undergraduate Economics, Politics and International Studies
- Year 1 of UPHA-L1CA Undergraduate Economics, Psychology and Philosophy
- Year 1 of UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics

This module is Unusual option for:

- Year 1 of UPHA-L1CA Undergraduate Economics, Psychology and Philosophy
- Year 1 of UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 1 of UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics