# COURSE DESCRIPTION EXPERIMENTAL ECONOMICS

Academic Year 2019-2020 (Last updated date: 14/05/2019) (Approved by the Department Council: 21/05/2019)

MODULE	COURSE	YEAR	SEMESTER	CREDITS	TYPE
Economic analysis	Experimental Economics	40	2º	6	Optional
LECTURER(S) <sup>(1)</sup>			FULL CONTACT INFORMATION FOR OFFICE HOURS (Address ,phone number, email, etc.)		
Juan Antonio Lacomba Arias			Department of Economic Theory and History, 3rdfloor, Faculty of Economics and Business. Office number B319. Email: jlacomba@ugr.es		
COORDINATOR OF THE COURSE: Juan Antonio Lacomba Arias			OFFICE HOURS		
			http://tehieco.ugr.es/		
BACHELOR'S DEGREE			OTHER BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN WHICH IT CAN BE TAUGHT		
Bachelor's Degree in Economics					
DDEDECULICITES AND/OD DECOMMENDATIONS (if recognity)					

# PREREQUISITES AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS (if necessary)

To have undertaken the units Introduction to economics, Microeconomics I and Microeconomics II.

# BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS (ACCORDING TO BACHELOR'S DEGREE'S VERIFICATION DOCUMENT)

Introduction to Experimental Economics, Experimental design with incentives, decision making under uncertainty, intertemporal choices, public goods, auctions and bargaining, coordination games, equilibria, game theory, altruism, reciprocity, etc.

## **GENERAL AND SPECIFIC COMPETENCES**

#### General



¹Consulte posible actualización en Acceso Identificado > Aplicaciones > Ordenación Docente (∞)Esta guía docente debe ser cumplimentada siguiendo la "Normativa de Evaluación y de Calificación de los estudiantes de la Universidad de Granada" (http://secretariageneral.ugr.es/pages/normativa/fichasugr/ncg7121/!)

Capacity for analysis and synthesis; Ability to communicate orally and written in English; Ability to manage information; Capacity to solve problems; Capacity for decision-making; Ability to work in an interdisciplinary team; Ability to communicate with other areas of knowledge; Capacity for critical and self-critical reasoning; Learning capacity and autonomous work; Ability to apply knowledge in practice; Ability to search for information and research; Ability to design and manage projects; Students will know how to apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional way and possess the skills that are usually demonstrated through the elaboration and defense of arguments and the resolution of problems within their area of study; Students will have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (usually within their area of study) to make judgments that include a reflection on relevant issues of a social, scientific or ethical nature; Students will able to transmit information, ideas, problems and solutions to a specialized and non-specialized public; Students will develop the necessary learning skills to undertake later studies with a high degree of autonomy.

# **Specific**

To identify and anticipate relevant economic problems in relation to the allocation of, both in the private and in the public sphere. To provide rationality to the analysis and description of any aspect of economic reality. To evaluate consequences of different action alternatives and select the best ones given the objectives. To derive relevant information that cannot be recognized by non-professionals from the data.

### OBJECTIVES (EXPRESSED AS EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE LEARNING PROCESS)

In this subject, the fundamental contents related to Experimental Economics are presented. The course covers several topics such as individual decision making, cooperation, bargaining, social preferences, neuro-economics, labor market, field experiments, etc. The student who chooses this subject must have knowledge of microeconomics at intermediate level and, in particular, have studied the subject "Microeconomics II" of the Degree in Economics, where they learn the basic elements of the different concepts of Game Theory. Therefore, this course must be completed in the second cycle of the degree. Among the fundamental objectives of this subject are

Teach students a methodology that allows them to know how experiments are designed and the quantitative and qualitative analysis of them. The course will cover the main research articles of the most relevant subjects in the field of Experimental Economics.

In general, the course will focus on the following topics:

Theoretical introduction to economics experiments.

Introduction to the design of experiments.

Review of the main contributions in the Experimental Economics.

Review of the main "field experiments".

#### DETAILED SYLLABUS OF THE COURSE

#### **THEORY**

- Topic 1. Introduction to experiments in economics.
- Topic 2. Behavioral economics.
- Topic 3. Altruism and Bargaining.
- Topic 4. Trust.
- Topic 5. Labor Market.
- Topic 6. Public goods.



- Topic 7. Antisocial behavior.
- Topic 8. Field experiments

#### **PRACTICE**

- Design of experiments by groups
- Oral and written presentation of the experiments in class

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

#### MAIN TEXTBOOKS:

- Economía Experimental y del Comportamiento, Antoni Bosch Editor, Pablo Brañas coordinador, 2011
- Davis, D. and Holt, C. (1993). Experimental Economics. Princeton University Press, Princeton.

#### OTHER RECOMMENDATION TEXTBOOKS:

- Camerer, C.F. (1995). Individual Decision Making. In Kagel, J.H. and Roth, A.E. (eds.) Handbook of Experimental Economics. Princeton UniversityPress, Princeton: 587-703.
- Harrison, G.W. and List, J.A. (2004). Field Experiments. Journal of Economic Literature 42: 1013-59.
- Roth, A.E. (1995). Introduction to Experimental Economics. In Kagel, J.H. and Roth, A.E. (eds.)
   Handbook of Experimental Economics. Princeton UniversityPress, Princeton. Chapter 1.
- Camerer, C.F. (2003). Behavioral Game Theory. Princeton UniversityPress, Princeton.
- Holt, C. (2006) Markets, Games, & Strategic Behavior. Addison Wesley.
- Kagel, J.H. and Roth, A.E. (1995). Handbook of Experimental Economics. Princeton University Press, Princeton.

#### RECOMMENDED LINKS

#### TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The professor together with the students will develop all the subjects that configure the agenda.

During the syllabus, original experiments will be proposed by the students. These works include:

- \* Present a novel experimental idea.
- \* Establish behavioral hypothesis.
- \* Design of the experiments.
- \* Comments on the expected results.

The experimental proposal can be either alone or in groups of 2 people, and should be a novel idea, although part of its design may involve replicating an existing experimental finding. A well-developed experimental proposal includes:

- 1) An analysis of the theoretical predictions of the behavior of the subjects.
- 2) A review of the related literature.
- 3) An experimental design discussing all treatments and behavioral hypotheses.
- 4) Strategy for the analysis of experimental data.
- 5) And if possible, carry out a pilot study with some (unpaid) subjects.



# ASSESSMENT (ASSESSMENT TOOLS, ASSESSMENT CRITERIAAND PERCENTAGE OF FINAL MARK, ETC.)

Following the regulations, there is a continuous assessment.

The instruments and evaluation criteria consist in making two presentations during the course (a presentation of an own experimental design of a lab experiment and a presentation of an own experimental design of a field experiment) and two written proposals of 6-8 pages of your own experimental designs before the last week of the course. The total grade of this course (100%) will be made according to the following weighting:

- Oral presentation of your own experimental design I: 20%
- Oral presentation of your own experimental design II: 20%
- Written proposal of 6-8 pages on your own experimental design I: 20%
- Written proposal of 6-8 pages on your own experimental design II: 20%
- Class participation: 20%

In the case of group work, the members of the group may or may not receive the same qualification. To be able to pass the subject by continuous assessment, all the tasks will be carried out. If one of them is not done, it cannot be approved by continuous assessment.

According to Article 8 of the current Evaluation Regulations, students will be able to take a single final evaluation the first two weeks of the course (or two weeks after their enrollment change), as requested, through the electronic procedure, to the Director of the Department, alleging and proving the reasons that assist him to be unable to follow the continuous evaluation system (labor reasons, health status, disability or any other duly justified cause), understanding such evaluation, as a single academic act to prove that the student has acquired all of the skills described.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SINGLE FINAL ASSESSMENT ACCORDING TO "RULES FOR ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GRANADA"

The single assessment will consist of an exam with short answer questions and/or essay questions where the students will have to answer a series of questions related to the totality of the topics seen in the course.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Economic Theory and Economic History Department in accordance with the Regulations for the attention to students with disabilities and other specific educational support needs approved by the UGR Governing Council on September 20, 2016 will promote the right to education under conditions of equal opportunities to students with disabilities and other specific educational support needs. The necessary assistance actions will be established to achieve their full and effective inclusion, guaranteeing their right to inclusive education, in accordance with the principles of non-discrimination, equal opportunities and universal accessibility, so that they can achieve the maximum possible development of their personal and, in any case, the objectives established in general for all students.

Likewise, according to article 11 of the Regulation of Evaluation and Qualification of students of the current University of Granada, the evaluation systems will be adapted to students with



disabilities or other specific needs of educational support, guaranteeing in any case their rights and favoring their inclusion in university studies.

