**Economics & Management**

*How does the modern economy work?*

*Is the economic growth a given?*

*How does monetary policy influence everyday life?*

*How to manage – your own time and a company?*

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**DAY 1 / Economy and economics**

**LECTURE (10:30 - 12:00)**

Economics and economy – looking for a receipt for a more prosperous life; hopes and disappointments.

During the lecture we are going to talk about the emergence of economics as well as directions in the economic research and reasons behind it. We are going to analyse which economic and social circumstances led to changes in thinking about economy and economics. We shall present the crucial breakthroughs in the economic history of the modern world – industrial revolution, Great Depression, oil crises, Great Moderation and Great Recession. We will see how wars have shaped the economic state of the world. We are going to hear about the major economists, who have influenced the common perception of economy, markets and economic choices – Adam Smith, David Ricardo, Charles Marx, Carl Menger, John Maynard Keynes and Milton Friedman – as well as about modern economic tools based on mathematics. We shall get to know the differences between microeconomics and macroeconomics. Furthermore, we will answer questions concerning economic growth: Is it a sure thing? What are a business cycle and a creative destruction? What factors determine the long-term growth and short-term fluctuations?

**WORKSHOP (12:30 - 14:00)**

Experiment

The participant will have the opportunity to see how they make decisions – we are going to check how well economic theories describe our decision-making.

**SEMINAR (15:00 - 16:30)**

Think like an economist

This class has an interactive nature and necessitates an active participation of the participants. We are going to ponder over the concept of rationality – what rational decision-making is and how rationality in economics differs from the one in everyday terms. We shall also see why economic thinking is useful not only for solving economic problems – we will discuss more and less popular examples of economic imperialism (economic methods applied to fields of other social sciences), like Gary Becker and Steven Levitt, and we will ask ourselves whether their work can still be classified within economics. We shall also talk about the boundaries of our rationality – do we always behave in a way that economic theories expect us to and how is information important in this context? In the end we shall discuss the importance of economic experiments.
DAY 2 / Company and manager on the global market

LECTURE (10:30 - 12:00)
The role of entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship in an economy

The topic of the lecture concerns business operations and managing a company. We are going to discuss the importance of companies for the economy and the influence of the economic environment on the former. We will ask ourselves questions like ‘What is the impact of globalisation and increasing competition on the management of companies and why it makes harder for young Europeans to find jobs?’ and ‘What competences do employers look for?’ We shall spend a lot of time on discussion about the growing significance of managers for the contemporary organisations – ‘why a manager earns today 10 times more than a few decades ago and why is it so hard to become one?’ We will consider what characteristics a manager should possess and whether it is possible to learn how to be one or rather the innate abilities are the crucial factor.

SEMINAR (12:30 - 14:00)
Managing your own time

According to Peter F. Drucker, ‘You cannot manage other people unless you manage yourself first.’ Why is management of your own work and time so important in your professional and personal life? What is the role of self-discipline? How to work and learn more efficiently? During the seminar we will answer these (and a lot of other) questions connected with self-management. We will also discuss technological solutions that may help us with managing our time and improve our effectiveness not only in work, but also in school.

WORKSHOP (15:00 - 16:30)
Group work

A case study in strategic management. We are going to learn by doing how to organise work of a group to resolve a practical problem – similar to the ones with which companies have to deal.

DAY 3 / Great Recession

LECTURE (10:30 - 12:00)
The importance of banking system and credit in the modern economy

During this lecture we are going to discuss the role of banks in the modern economy, the significance of corporate lending and consumer credit. We will learn what banks sell and how they finance their activities. Furthermore, the aims and tools of the monetary policy will be presented, as well as monetary authorities. We will also discuss the political importance of ‘cheap money’ and its consequence for the financial and real estate markets. The concepts of securitisation and derivatives, as well as their role in the current crisis (‘Great Recession’) shall be analysed. By doing so, we will see the potential dangers of a naive and reckless use of specific economic theories.

SEMINAR (12:30 - 14:00)
American dream about own house

In other words, an attempt to find someone to blame for the 2007-08 Financial Crisis. By analysing newspaper and journal articles we shall try to assess the roles of consumers, banks, rating agencies, government and central bank in leading the US economy (and then, the global one) to the recession. We shall also consider why the financial market hasn’t solved the problem on its own (meaning, why it has made taking credit possible for people that should have never be allowed to do so) and whether the Great Recession is an example of a market failure or rather a government failure. During the seminar we are also going to discuss the concepts of ‘too big to fail’, moral hazard and principal-agent problem.

WORKSHOP (15:00 - 16:30)
Analysis of macroeconomic data
Working in groups we will analyse macroeconomic data describing the diffusion of Great Recession to European countries. We will become acquainted with the most important data sources, choose the revealing indicators, compare the depth of crisis in particular countries, check the characteristics of countries with most profound problems (like Greece) and of the ones that did relatively well (e.g. Germany). Moreover, we shall try to determine the sequence of events that led to debt crisis in the Eurozone.

**DAY 4 / Global economy**

**LECTURE (10:30 - 12:00)**

Why some countries are poorer and other richer?

This question has been a long-standing question asked by economists. The differences in levels of technology, physical capital and human capital have been considered as crucial. During the lecture we should also discuss other, less obvious (at least to economists) factors, such as political institutions, social capital, geographical conditions or culture. We will explain the concept of economic convergence that is the expectation that, after some time, the developing countries should catch up with the developed ones. We will discuss why it might happen and whether it happens in real world. We will reference to classical authors (Smith), 20th Century ones (Solow) and the contemporary ones. During this session we will also deal with the phenomenon of a global economy and the question how its emergence influences the economic growth of the developing countries. In particular, we shall discuss the role of international trade and foreign investment for escaping the underdevelopment trap.

**SEMINAR (12:30 - 14:00)**

Role of Poland in International Economy

By starting from our own experiences we are going to compare the quality of life in Poland with other countries. Together we shall find the most probable reasons of its relatively low (in comparison with western countries) level. We will consider the structure of the economy, skills of the labour force, innovativeness and quality of education in Poland. Discussion about the economy will be the prerequisite for the considerations about functioning of the Polish democracy and institutional system: "Are the political and economic institutions in Poland inclusive (‘they work well’) or exclusive (‘they work badly’)?" For example, does the Polish law facilitate the growth of companies? Are relations between a citizen and the state based on mutual trust? What is the scale of corruption and what are its consequences for the economy? In the end we shall consider the competitiveness of the Polish economy – do Polish companies succeed as exporters or foreign investors?

**WORKSHOP (15:00 - 16:30)**

Polish companies on the global market

A panel discussion with managers of Polish companies that have succeeded operate globally. A meeting, during which we shall learn how Polish companies can compete with foreign ones, what are their possible advantages and what barriers they have to deal with.

**DAY 5 / Global economy today and tomorrow**

**LECTURE (10:30 - 12:00)**

Implications of the Great Recession for the economy and economic policy

During the last day we will learn about the consequences of the Great Recession for consumers, companies, financial institutions, governments and central banks. We shall ponder upon questions about the persistence of these effects. We will discuss the intellectual challenges that the recession posed to economists and policymakers. We will become acquainted with the monetary policy tools that FED and ECV have been using recently. Furthermore, we shall analyse the changes to the policies in developed countries and their impact on the globalisation process. Finally, we are going to
discuss whether governments implementing anti-crisis policies have a long-term perspective in mind or rather short-term one only.

**SEMINAR (12:30 - 14:00)**
What is the future of the global and Polish economies?

We are going to consider the possible ways for the government to improve the development potential for the next few decades. We will analyse the labour market issues and discuss the challenges that await us as economically active people. We shall also debate about the motives behind consecutive pension system reforms and how do nurseries and sending six year old children to school relate to it. Moreover, we will also discuss the future of Eurozone.

**WORKSHOP (15:00 - 16:30)**
Is a depletion of natural resources a real threat?

Theory vs practice – a panel discussion