UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

Course Unit Program
Public Economics

Academic Year 2025/2026

1. Organic Unit

Faculty of Business and Economic Sciences

2. Course

ECONOMICS

3. Cycle

1st

4. Course Unit

Public Economics (03319)

5. Scientific Area

6. Curricular Year

2nd

7. Type of Curricular Unit / Semester

2nd Semester

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8. Class type and workload (work time)

Theoretical classes:	
Practical classes:	
Theoretical-Practical Classes	30,00
Tutorial Guidance:	20,00

9. ECTS Credits

6,00

10. Scientific Area Coordinator

11. Regent

Prof. Doutor GUILHERME BERSE RODRIGUES LAMBAIS

12. Assistants

13. Teaching Language

Portuguese

14. General Objectives

Analyze, in a systematic way, the problem of public intervention in the economy using Public Economics, as well as the Theory of Economic Relativity and Welfare Economics.

15. Specific Objectives

Analyze the choices to be made in Public Economics, with a view to maximizing Social Welfare, the study of the instruments of socio-economic policy that can be used by the State, as well as the mechanisms for redistributing income and wealth, within the framework of globalization, at an international level.

16. Skills to be acquired

Ability to analyze and compare economic policy alternatives in light of public economic models; assess the economic and social impact of tax, health, social security, and education policies; apply quantitative methodologies to public policy analysis; interpret and critically discuss budget execution and public investment data and reports.

17. Teaching Methodology

The methodology of the theoretical-practical classes is based on teaching the theory of public economics and its various applications regarding the intervention of the modern State in the economy and its sectoral policies. The methodology of the tutorial classes will be focused on teaching the interpretation, in light of the economic theory learned in the course, of texts by national and foreign authors on the current problems of health, social security, education, and others.

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18. Course Unit Program

Chapter I. On the Role of the State in the Economy.
1.1. Economic and social systems.
1.2. the objectives of public intervention in a market economy.
1.3. The nature and classification of public goods.
1.4. Market failures and public intervention.
1.5. Pareto optimum.
1.6. Positive and negative externalities.
1.7. Mixed goods.
Chapter II. Redistributive Policies.
2.1. From redistributive policies as a mere instrument of a policy to promote social justice to redistributive policies as an instrument of macroeconomic policies.
2.2. Forms of redistributive policies.
2.3. Criteria to be adopted.
2.4. Redistribution by tax means.
2.5. Economics of Social Security.
2.6. Health Economics.
2.7. Health and the Fourth Industrial Revolution.
Chapter III. State-Private Sector Partnerships.
3.1. Privatisation.
3.2. From contractualization to PPP (Public Private Projects) methodology.
3.3. Public procurement.
3.4. Market Type Mechanisms (MTMs).
Chapter IV. Budgetary policy.
4.1. Budgetary policy constraints.
4.2. Short-, medium- and long-term approach (from the short-term to the structural perspective).
4.3. Tax policies.
4.4. the relationship between budgetary and monetary policy.
Chapter V. Of The Theory of Economic Relativity.
5.1. The relevance of the Theory of Economic Relativity.
5.2. The New Macroeconomic Diamond.
5.3. The New Business Diamond.
5.4. The Diamond of Economic Relativity.
5.5. Of the Three Diamonds of Well-Being.

19. Assessment Methods

Students will be assessed through two intermediate tests, based on attendance, class participation and interest in the subject, and the completion of reports and assignments.

20. Didactic Resources

Whiteboard, multimedia projection, support platforms such as Moodle and, in addition to the recommended bibliography, supporting texts by national and foreign authors.

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21. Sustainability Objectives

SDG 4 (Quality Education): by promoting quantitative skills applied to economic analysis. SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth): by enabling students to rigorously evaluate government policies and decisions. SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being): by analyzing, in particular, health and social security policies. SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation): by evaluating supply and sanitation policies. SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities): by studying redistributive and social inclusion policies.

22. Keywords

Welfare
Choice
Externalities
Partnerships

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23. Main Bibliography

Author(s): António Rebelo de Sousa
Title: Da Economia
Edition: 1a Year: 2017
Local: Lisboa
Publisher: Diário de Bordo
ISBN Code:

Author(s): António Rebelo de Sousa
Title: Da Teoria da Relatividade Económica Aplicada à Economia Internacional e às Políticas de Cooperação
Edition: 1a Year: 2004
Local: Lisboa
Publisher: Universidade Lusíada Editora
ISBN Code:

Author(s):
Title:
Edition: Year:
Local:
Publisher:
ISBN Code:

24. Complementary Bibliography

Author(s): Nicholas Barr
Title: The Economics of the Welfare State
Edition: 6a Year: 2020
Local: Oxford
Publisher: Oxford University Press
ISBN Code:

Author(s): Cavaco e Silva e Júlio Neves
Title: Finanças Públicas e Política Macroeconómica
Edition: 1a Year: 1995
Local: 1995
Publisher: Universidade Nova de Lisboa
ISBN Code:

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Ficha técnica MIP / MIP Datasheet	
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Autor / Author	Prof. Doutor GUILHERME BERSE RODRIGUES LAMBAIS
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Colaborador(es) / Colaborator(s)	-
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