COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Microeconomics	

Academic staff	Core academic unit(s)
Coordinating: Assoc. Prof. Dr Rasa Pušinaitė-Gelgotė **Other: Dr Mahyar Kamali Saraji**	Kaunas Faculty Institute of Social Sciences and Applied Informatics

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
First cycle	Compulsory

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when it is delivered	Language of instruction
Classroom / Online / Blended	**Semester or period**	1st semester

Requisites	
Prerequisites: No	**Co-requisites (if relevant): No**

Number of ECTS credits allocated	Student's workload (total)	Contact hours	Individual work
10	260	100	160

Purpose of the course unit		
Upon completion of the course, students will be able to understand the meaning, structure, and functions of economics as a science; understand the main microeconomic concepts and models; develop a systemic view of the practical application of microeconomics and its use in the theoretical analysis of other social sciences.		
Learning outcomes of the course unit	**Teaching and learning methods**	**Assessment methods**
The student will develop the ability to work independently, set priorities to achieve individual or organizational goals.	Research methods (information search, study of scientific literature), Problem-solving, Case analysis, independent work	Independent work
The student will be able to work in a team to solve real microeconomic problems and justify them theoretically.	Group discussion, Case analysis, Problem-based learning, independent work	Independent work
The student will know the main microeconomic categories, methods, and principles.	Lecture, Problem-based learning, Group discussion, Research methods (literature study)	Exam, Colloquium: test (open and closed type questions), Independent work
The student will understand and model the behavior of market participants in different market structures and will be able to formulate justified generalizations of their activities.	Lectures, Problem-based learning, Case analysis, Problem-solving	Exam, Colloquium: test (open and closed type questions), Independent work
The student will understand and model the behavior of market participants in different market structures and will be able to formulate justified generalizations of their activities.	Lecture, Problem-based learning, Case analysis, Problem-solving, Research methods (literature study)	Exam, Colloquium: test (open and closed type questions), Independent work
The student will be able to determine product demand and supply, apply elasticity theory when calculating changes in company revenue due to price changes, understand consumer behavior in the market, calculate production outputs, costs, and revenues, determine the level of production that maximizes company profit, and evaluate the factor market and its outcomes.	Problem-based learning, Research methods (literature study), Problem-solving	Exam, Colloquium: test (open and closed type questions), Independent work

Content	Contact hours	Individual work: time and assignments

	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Workshops	Laboratory work	Internship	**Contact hours, total**	**Individual work**	**Tasks for individual work**
Economics and its subject of study: the essence of economics, circular flow of economic activity, positive and normative economics.	4			1			5	10	Information search, reading scientific literature, preparation for group discussion. Readings: Mankiw, Taylor, 2013, pp. 4-18, Shapiro, 2022, pp. 9-45
Basics of demand and supply analysis: demand function, law of demand, cases of demand changes; supply function, law of supply, cases of supply changes.	6			2			8	14	Practical group assignments, information search, reading scientific literature. Readings: Mankiw, Taylor, 2013, pp. 68–80; Shapiro, 2022, pp. 47-82
Market equilibrium and government intervention: market equilibrium, cases of equilibrium change, setting minimum and maximum prices.	4			1			5	10	Practical tasks, information search, reading scientific literature. Readings: Mankiw, Taylor, 2013, pp. 75–84; 118–130; Pindyck, Rubinfeld, 2012, pp. 25–32; 58-60.
Elasticity of demand and supply: cases of demand elasticity, supply elasticity, practical application of elasticity.	4			4			8	10	Practical tasks, reading scientific literature. Readings: Mankiw, Taylor, 2013, pp. 89–109; Shapiro, 2022, pp. 111-135
Consumer behavior: utility indicators, utility maximization, consumer budget, indifference curves.	4			4			8	10	Practical tasks, reading scientific literature. Readings: Mankiw, Taylor, 2013, pp. 136-152; Shapiro, 2022, pp. 137-156
Consultation		2					2		Consultation
Theory of production: essence of production, production indicators, production function, short- and long-term production.	6			4			10	10	Practical tasks, reading scientific literature. Readings: Pindyck, Rubinfeld, 2012, pp. 201–227; Shapiro, 2022, pp. 157-187
Production costs: opportunity costs, cost function, cost indicators, short- and long-term costs.	6			4			10	12	Practical tasks, reading scientific literature. Readings: Mankiw, Taylor, 2013, pp. 259–275; Pindyck, Rubinfeld, 2012, pp. 229-271
Perfect competition: revenue indicators, profit maximization, break-even point, shutdown point.	6			4			10	10	Practical tasks, reading scientific literature. Readings: Mankiw, Taylor, 2013, pp. 279–297; Shapiro, 2022, pp. 187-213
Monopoly: conditions of monopoly, profit maximization, price discrimination, regulation of monopoly. Monopsony.	4			2			6	10	Reading scientific literature, information search, case analysis. Readings: Mankiw, Taylor, 2013, pp. 299-324; Pindyck, Rubinfeld, 2012, pp. 355-396; Shapiro, 2022, pp. 215-234
Monopolistic competition: profit maximization, short- and long-term operation, product differentiation.	6			2			8	10	Reading scientific literature, information search, case analysis. Readings: Mankiw, Taylor, 2013, pp. 329–345; Pindyck, Rubinfeld, 2012, pp. 452–483

Oligopoly: conditions of oligopoly, duopoly, collusion in oligopolistic market, equilibrium in oligopoly, game theory, kinked demand curve.	6			1			7	10	Reading scientific literature, information search, case analysis. Readings: Mankiw, Taylor, 2013, pp. 347–365; 373–376; Pindyck, Rubinfeld, 2012, pp. 456–483; 501–528; Shapiro, 2022, pp. 246-256
Factor markets: essence of factor markets, factor incomes, factor demand, labor supply.	4			1			5	10	Reading scientific literature, case analysis. Readings: Mankiw, Taylor, 2013, pp. 373–391;
Market efficiency: cases of efficiency.	2			1			3	8	Information search, reading scientific literature. Readings: Mankiw, Taylor, 2013, pp. 144–150; Pindyck, Rubinfeld, 2012, pp. 323-352
External costs, public goods, common resources.	2			1			3	8	Information search, reading scientific literature. Readings: Mankiw, Taylor, 2013, pp. 195–229; Pindyck, Rubinfeld, 2012, pp. 661-697; Shapiro, 2022, pp. 281-324
Exam preparation and examination		2					4	18	Exam preparation, examination
Total	64	4		32	0	0	100	160	

Assessment strategy	Weight %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Colloquium (test)	30	During the semester	The test consists of closed and open-type questions (of varying difficulty, from understanding to evaluation) with different weightings. Assessed as follows: • **10 points**: Excellent knowledge and skills. Evaluation level. 95–100% correct answers. • **9 points**: Very good knowledge and skills, may contain minor errors. Synthesis level. 85–94% correct answers. • **8 points**: Average knowledge and skills, some errors. Analysis level. 75–84% correct answers. • **7 points**: Below average knowledge and skills, essential errors. Application level. 65–74% correct answers. • **6 points**: Minimum requirements met. Many errors. Application level. 55–64% correct answers. • **5 points**: Minimum requirements barely met. Many errors. Description level. 45–54% correct answers. • **4–0 points**: Minimum requirements not met. Less than 44% correct answers.
Independent work	40	During the semester	5–6 practical tasks (problem-solving, practical application of knowledge in business tasks) and 1–2 case analyses and their presentations. **Assessment criteria:** • **10 points** – comprehensive answers, demonstrated synthesized knowledge, based on theoretical literature insights, ability to critically evaluate, problems solved correctly. • **9 points** – essence of questions revealed, generalized knowledge shown, causes explained; problems solved correctly. • **8 points** – relational knowledge and understanding: essential parts connected and integrated, problems solved with minor errors. • **7 points** – multi-structural knowledge: focus on several important aspects, but not all properly connected; problems solved with errors. • **6 points** – multi-structural knowledge: focus on several aspects, but weakly connected; problems solved with errors. • **5 points** – uni-structural knowledge: answers focused on one aspect, based on listing facts; problems solved with errors. • **4–1 points** – minimum requirements not met: incorrect or unsuitable facts used, incorrect or missing answers, unsolved tasks. If the case analysis part of Independent Work is not presented in class, the lecturer has the right to ask additional questions to verify that generative AI tools ("ChatGPT" or similar) were not used. If necessary, the grade may be changed or annulled.
Exam (test)	30	During the exam session	The exam consists of closed and open-type questions (of varying difficulty, from understanding to evaluation) with different weightings. Assessed as follows: • **10 points**: Excellent knowledge and skills. Evaluation level. 95–100% correct answers. • **9 points**: Very good knowledge and skills, may contain minor errors. Synthesis level. 85–94% correct answers. • **8 points**: Average knowledge and skills, some errors. Analysis level. 75–84% correct answers. • **7 points**: Below average knowledge and skills, essential errors. Application level. 65–74% correct answers. • **6 points**: Minimum requirements met. Many errors. Application level. 55–64% correct answers. • **5 points**: Minimum requirements barely met. Many errors. Description level. 45–54% correct answers. • **4–0 points**: Minimum requirements not met. Less than 44% correct answers.

Author (-s)	Publishing year	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing house or web link
Required reading				
Mankiw N. G., Taylor M. P.	2013	Microeconomics		London: Thomson
Shapiro, David, Daniel MacDonald, and Steven A. Greenlaw.	2022	Principles of Macroeconomics 3e.		Vk Publications
Pindyck, R.S., Rubinfeld, D.L.	2012	Microeconomics, 8e.		Prentice Hall
Recommended reading				
Krugman P., Wells R.	2005	Microeconomics.		New York: Worth Publishers
Emerson P. M.	2019	Intermediate microeconomics		https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/956