

COURSE LAYOUT

1. GENERAL

SCHOOL	APPLIED ECONOMICS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES		
DEPARTMENT	AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS & RURAL DEVELOPMENT		
STUDY LEVEL	<i>Undergraduate</i>		
COURSE CODE	3716	SEMESTER	6 th
COURSE TITLE	POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE AGRI-FOOD SECTOR		
INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES		WEEKLY TEACHING HOURS	ECTS
Lectures and Assignments		5	5
COURSE TYPE	Scientific area		
PREREQUISITES			
LANGUAGE	Greek		
IS THE COURSE OFFERED for ERASMUS STUDENTS?	Yes (in English)		
COURSE WEB PAGE	https://oeclass.aua.gr/eclass/courses/AOA238/		

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning Outcomes
<p>Through the adoption of a "pluralistic" approach and critique of the mainstream economic theory, this course aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. acquaint students with core thematic areas of economic theory 2. analyse both the national and international agri-food system. <p>Upon successful completion of the course the students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand critical concepts of economics and the operation of the economic system, while acquiring a critical thinking ability • Recognize the main differences between Political Economy and the mainstream economic theory • Understand and analyze central functions of the agri-food system and the roles of the farm / farm household within it • To supplement the knowledge they have acquired from several other courses of the Department, through the perspective of Political Economy
General competences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autonomous work • Teamwork • Decision making • Critique and self-critique • Advance of free thinking and reasoning

3. COURSE CONTENT

<p>The course includes the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Economic science and modern capitalism
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2. The different 'paradigms' in economics - The methodology of Neoclassical Theory and Political Economy.
3. 'Post-Keynesian' Theory: Consumer behavior, demand.
4. 'Post-Keynesian' Theory: Production costs and theory of the firm.
5. Critique of the Welfare Economics.
6. Systems Theory
7. The composite entity farm / farm household
8. The structure and functions of the global agri-food system
9. Agri-Food Value Chains
10. The political economy of agriculture and the agri-food system.
11. The structure, characteristics and functions of the actual agricultural and food markets. The financial markets and their relationship to agricultural markets - the recent food crises. Self-regulation in the agricultural and financial markets?

The course is also enriched with a critical presentation and discussion of examples and recent research results from agriculture, rural areas, food and the environment.

4. TEACHING and LEARNING METHODS - Evaluation

TEACHING METHOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In class• Project Assignment to students	
USE OF INFORMATICS and COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• e-class platform• Power-Point slides• Communication with students using eclass and email	
TEACHING ORGANISATION	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Work Load</i>
	Lectures	60
	Project Assignment to students	40
	Study at home	25
	<i>Course total (25 hours of student work load per ECTS)</i>	<i>125</i>
STUDENTS EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written exams including questions (multiple choice and open text) (60%)• Project Assignment (40%)	
	There is the possibility to conduct the written exams, either at the end of the Semester (with all the course material), or with two separate exams, in the middle and at the end of the semester, with half the course material at a time.	

5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Suggested:

- Lavoie M. (2006): 'Introduction to Post-Keynesian Economics', Palgrave Macmillan, NY.
- Bowles, S., Edwards, R., και Roosevelt Fr. (2014): 'Understanding Capitalism – Competition, Command and Change', 4rd Edition, Oxford University Press.

Additional (optional) Bibliography

- Tae-Hee Jo, Lynne Chester, and Carlo D'Ippoliti (Eds) (2017): 'The Routledge Handbook of Heterodox Economics: Theorizing, Analyzing, and Transforming Capitalism', Routledge, New York.
- Cohn, St. (2007): Reintroducing Macroeconomics, A Critical Approach, Ed. M. E. Sharpe, NY.
- Hill R. and T. Myatt (2010): 'The Economics Anti-Textbook', Zed Books, London & New York.
- Prasch R. (2008): 'How Markets Work – Supply, Demand and the «Real World»', Edward Elgar, Cheltenham, UK & Northampton MA, USA.
- Stuhlberger Wjuniski, B. and Fernandez, R.G. (2010): Karl Polanyi, Athens and us: The contemporary significance of Polanyi's thought, Brazilian Journal of Political Economy, Vol. 30, nº 3 (119), pp. 420-437.
- van den Berg A., Spithoven A. and J. Groenewegen (2010): 'Institutional Economics – An Introduction', Palgrave Macmillan, NY.
- Stilwell Fr. (2011): 'Political Economy: The Contest of Economic Ideas', 3rd Edition, Oxford University Press, USA.
- Bougrine, H., I. Parker and M. Seccareccia (2010): 'Introducing Microeconomic Analysis: Issues, Questions, and Competing Views', Emond Montgomery Publications, Toronto, Canada.
- Sherman, H., Hunt E.K., Nesiba, R., O'Hara, Ph. and B. Wiens-Tuers (2008): 'Economics: An Introduction to Traditional and Radical Views', 7th Edition, M.E. Sharpe, New York.
- Keen St. (2011): 'Debunking Economics - Revised and Expanded Edition: The Naked Emperor Dethroned?', Zed Books, London & New York.
- Fullbrook E. (Ed) (2008): 'Pluralist Economics', Zed Books, London & New York.
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- Rosin, Ch., Stock, P. and Campbell, H (Eds) (2014): Food Systems Failure – The global food crisis and the future of agriculture, Ed. Earthscan-Routledge, NY.
- Weis, T. (2007): The Global Food Economy – The battle for the future of farming, Zed Books, London.
- Howard, Ph. (2016): Concentration and Power in the Food System – Who controls what we eat?, Bloomsbury, London.
- Lang, T. and Heasman, M. (2005): Food Wars – The global battle for mouths, minds and markets, Ed. Earthscan-Routledge, NY.
- Casson, R. and Errington, A. (1993): The Farm Family Business, CABI, Wallingford, UK.