PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMICS: THE FIRM AND ITS ENVIRONMENT 1

UE 4, semestre 1

LECTURER:
Last name: Cavalli
First name: Isabel
Mail: isabel.cavalli@univ-cotedazur.fr

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
The objective of this course is an introduction to the economic and social environment where firms operate to understand their behaviour and strategies. For this objective, we study some relevant themes of the modern economy and society, such as technological progress and revolution. We will then dive into the firm structure by exploring the labour division; and then look at the innovation process by examining the invention-diffusion process, the impact of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs), and the interactions with external actors such as universities.
**REQUIREMENTS:**

Students are required to have a good level in English reading, writing and oral comprehension. The lectures will be delivered entirely in English.

Students are warmly invited to ask questions when something is not clear. Don’t be afraid of asking.

**COURSE PLAN:**

This course covers the following topics: 1) the capitalist revolution; 2) technology and growth; 3) firm’s structure and its organization; 4) Creative Destruction Process and technological progress; 5) Innovation Diffusion Process; 6) Interactions between universities and firms.

Lectures will be uploaded weekly on Moodle.

**ASSESSMENT:**

During the course, the assessments will take place according to the formula of contrôle continue. Two modalities will take place:

- 1st assessment [50% of the grade]: **Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ) online test** on week five, on the content of the first four lectures
- 2nd assessment [50% of the grade]: **Two open but short questions to be answered in 2 pages (Maximum), developed individually or in couples, written in Word, Pages or Latex and to be sent back by email**

More precise details about the type of questions and deadline of the second assessment will be given during the course. The exams are designed to evaluate your ability to recall, critically communicate, and demonstrate your understanding of the ideas covered throughout the semester.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

We will use units of The Economy by the CORE TEAM. The book is freely available in electronic form on [https://www.core-econ.org](https://www.core-econ.org).