

SPAIN'S ECONOMY HIGHLIGHTS

Language: English

Level of Spanish required: Not required

Hours: 45

Course description

The subject focuses on the main characteristics of Spain's economy. Centered not only in the current status of the economy but also in the historical evolution of the country from 1939, the course aims to be a general overview of what makes and has conditioned Spain's economic growth and what has set the particularities of Spain's current economic situation.

Methodology

After presentation of the subject, the students will be encouraged to discuss and try to establish comparisons with their countries' characteristics.

Assessment

First part - exam: 50%

Second part - exam: 50%

At the end of each semester students must take a written exam with a series of multiple-choice questions and one open question. For annual students, final grade will be the average of the two tests (50% + 50%).

Some students may choose to make an oral presentation in class, whose topic will be first discussed with the professor. Annual students can only take this option in one semester.

Class participation may help improve the final grade.

Program

First part

- Spain's economic structure: strengths and weaknesses
- Media: main economic information sources in Spain
- Social agents: employees and employers
- The financial system in Spain. Banks and Savings Banks
- Stocks market (Ibex35)
- Spain in the European Union and the Eurozone
- Taxes and Social Security
- The regional financing

Second part

- El Franquismo (Francoism) (1939 – 1975)
 - War, autarchy and the falling behind
 - The opening period and the 60's 'miracle'
- La Transición (The Transition) (1975 – 1982)
 - Los Pactos de la Moncloa (The Moncloa Agreements).
- The PSOE years (1982 – 1996)
 - The industrial reconversion.
 - The 80's take off.
 - Corruption and the emergence of the "easy money" culture.
- The PP years (1996 – 2004)
 - Macroeconomic stability and the neoliberals.
- The last crisis (2007)
 - Why is it affecting Spain more than other countries?
 - Policies and reforms.

Bibliography

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- García Delgado, J.L. (dir.); Myro, R. Y Martínez Serrano, J.A. (codirs.) (20057^a edición) Lecciones de Economía Española. Madrid. Civitas.
- Harrison, J.; Corkill, D. (2004): Spain: A Modern European Economy (Modern Economic and Social History). Ashgate.
- Tamames, R. (20085^a Edición): Estructura económica de España. Madrid, Alianza Editorial.
- Tortella Casares, G. (1999): El desarrollo de la España contemporánea: historia económica de los siglos XIX y XX. Madrid, Alianza Editorial.
- Varoufakis, Y. (2015): Talking To My Daughter About Economy. Athens, Patakis (in Spanish: Economía sin corbata, conversaciones con mi hija. Barcelona, destino)