

COURSE OF STUDY: Economia e Management (LM-77)

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2025-2026 (2nd year)

ACADEMIC SUBJECT: Economia dei mercati e della regolamentazione

General information	
Year of the course	2025 – 2026 (2nd year)
Academic calendar (starting and ending date)	1 semester (8 th September 2025 – 19 th December 2025)
Credits (CFU/ETCS):	8
SSD	ECON/04
Language	Italian and English
Mode of attendance	Attendance is not mandatory but is highly recommended.

Professor/ Lecturer	
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Telephone	
Department and address	Dipartimento di Economia, Management e Diritto dell'Impresa, III piano (DEMDI)
Virtual room	
Office Hours (and modalities: e.g., by appointment, on line, etc.)	Mondays, 8h30-11h00

Work schedule			
Hours			
Total	Lectures	Hands-on (laboratory, workshops, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
64	47	17	
CFU/ETCS			
8	6	2	

Learning Objectives	<i>The course aims to examine the various market structures and their implications. It seeks to develop an understanding of the main issues related to industry regulation and competition policy, and to apply economic reasoning critically to public utilities, other industrial sectors (such as banking, automotive, and aviation), and competition policy cases. The course enhances knowledge and understanding of how resource, goods, and service markets function, as well as the ability to propose appropriate industrial and regulatory policies.</i>
Course prerequisites	<i>The course requires a solid foundation in microeconomics and industrial economics, mathematical analysis, and applied statistics, as well as a good command of the English language.</i>

Teaching strategies	<i>Lectures with discussion. The course places particular emphasis on the practical applications of regulatory models through the presentation of a series of case studies and the development of group project work, which will also take the form of exercises including student presentations. Teaching and practical activities will be further enriched by seminars and meetings with industry experts, entrepreneurs, managers, and regulators.</i>
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Expected learning outcomes in terms of	
Knowledge and understanding on:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the analytical knowledge and tools necessary to understand and analyze how markets function and how strategic interactions occur among the main economic actors: firms, regulators, the state, and consumers. ○ an analytical framework of the main regulatory instruments, enabling students to deepen their understanding of the behavior of firms, regulators, and consumers.
Applying knowledge and understanding on:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ apply the main analytical tools of advanced industrial organization to understand firm behavior and performance across different competitive environments. ○ apply this analysis to various industrial and service sectors. ○ carry out critical and synthetic analysis. ○ formulate hypotheses. ○ evaluate statements in light of empirical evidence. ○ identify logical fallacies. ○ define terms appropriately. ○ generalize appropriately.
Soft skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Making informed judgments and choices</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ independently assess the competitive dynamics of a market, the strategic behavior of firms and policymakers, and consumer choices. ○ identify potential critical issues. ○ propose possible policy solutions. • <i>Communicating knowledge and understanding</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a solid command of technical language. ○ the ability to articulate and discuss effectively the topics covered in class and/or drawn from real-world contexts—such as Antitrust Authority reports, Regulatory Authority documents, scientific articles, articles from major industry publications, and debates from television programs—on issues related to industrial economics and policy. • <i>Capacities to continue learning</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ describe and recognize the main market structures and optimal regulatory instruments. ○ evaluate the implications in terms of welfare. ○ use graphical and statistical analysis (including the construction and interpretation of indicators) to illustrate economic phenomena.
Syllabus	
Content knowledge	<p><i>The course covers two major themes in economics: advanced industrial economics and the economics of regulation.</i></p> <p><i>Within the first area, the course analytically addresses:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>market structures (competition, oligopoly, monopoly, etc.);</i> - <i>price discrimination policies;</i> - <i>game theory.</i> <p><i>The second area—which also includes competition policy—covers topics such as:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>natural monopoly;</i> - <i>competition for the market and contestable markets;</i> - <i>optimal pricing: pricing in the presence of subsidies;</i> - <i>peak-load pricing;</i> - <i>pricing under cost-recovery constraints (linear and nonlinear tariffs);</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>information and incentives;</i> - <i>regulatory models;</i> - <i>price controls and access charges;</i> - <i>service obligations;</i> - <i>capital valuation and rate of return;</i> - <i>collusive agreements;</i> - <i>abuse of market power.</i> <p><i>The course will provide examples related to recent national and international experiences and present regulatory mechanisms commonly used by public authorities responsible for these functions.</i></p> <p><i>Students are expected to actively participate in group project work to develop the ability to create and evaluate alternatives, analyze data and evidence, and apply the acquired knowledge to a variety of contexts.</i></p>
Texts and readings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Carlton D.W. e Perloff, Organizzazione industriale, McGraw- Hill, 2005</i> - <i>Cervini G. e M. D'Antoni, Monopolio naturale, concorrenza e regolamentazione, Roma, Carrocci Editore, 2001 (cap. 2-5).</i> - <i>Cambini, C., Manganelli, A., Napolitano, G. e Nicita A., Economia e diritto della regolazione. Reti, piattaforme e servizi di pubblica utilità. Il Mulino, Bologna, 2024. (cap. 11-18)</i> <p><i>If the student encounters difficulties, they can make use of:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Marzi G., Prosperetti L, Putzu E., La regolazione dei servizi infrastrutturali, Il Mulino, Bologna, 2001 (cap.1 e 2; to read); cap.3-7; cap. 9-11; appendice da p. 287 a p. 290 where the same topics are covered in a simplified manner.</i>
Notes, additional materials	<i>For exam preparation, it is recommended to regularly complete the exercises at the end of each chapter as well as those assigned by the instructor, and to attend and participate in the in-class exercises.</i>
Repository	

Assessment	
Assessment methods	<i>Written exam and group project work (for attending students).</i>
Assessment criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Knowledge and understanding</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ explain how markets function. ○ understand the strategic interactions among firms, regulators, the state, and consumers. ○ understand the mechanism of game theory. • <i>Applying knowledge and understanding</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ apply the main theories of industrial organization and quantitative analysis methods to analyze firm behavior and performance in different market conditions and structures. • <i>Autonomy of judgment</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ independently evaluate the competitive dynamics of a market and the strategic behavior of firms, identify potential critical issues, and suggest possible policy solutions. • <i>Communicating knowledge and understanding</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ discuss and argue key topics in the Economics of Regulation using technical language. • <i>Capacities to continue learning</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ use graphical analysis to illustrate economic phenomena. ○ analytically solve key problems in Applied Economics and Regulation (optimal quantity and price, incentive mechanisms, social welfare maximization, concentration indices, optimal scale, etc.).
Final exam and grading criteria	<p><i>The exam is written and consists of two parts:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Part I: open-ended questions on theoretical models of advanced industrial economics (20 points).</i> • <i>Part II: multiple-choice and/or true/false questions (10 points).</i> <p><i>The duration of the exam varies depending on the type of test (range: 30–60 minutes). During the exam, consultation of notes and/or textbooks is not allowed. The use of a calculator is not necessary and, therefore, no electronic calculation devices are permitted.</i></p> <p><i>Attending students will have the opportunity to complement part of the assessment with a group project, which must be submitted in written form and will be presented and discussed with the instructor.</i></p>
Further information	
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