

## COURSE OUTLINE: ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL POLICY

### GENERAL

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                 |                              |                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>SCHOOL</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | SCHOOL                                                          |                              |                |
| <b>ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS ACADEMIC UNIT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS ACADEMIC UNIT                            |                              |                |
| <b>ECONOMICS LEVEL OF STUDIES</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | ECONOMICS LEVEL OF STUDIES                                      |                              |                |
| <b>COURSE CODE</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | OA116                                                           | <b>SEMESTER</b>              | 5th            |
| <b>COURSE TITLE</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL POLICY                              |                              |                |
| <b>INSTRUCTOR(S)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Assoc. Professor A. Economou                                    |                              |                |
| <b>INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES</b><br><i>if credits are awarded for separate components of the course, e.g. lectures, laboratory exercises, etc.<br/> If the credits are awarded for the whole of the course, give the weekly teaching hours and the total credits</i> |                                                                 | <b>WEEKLY TEACHING HOURS</b> | <b>CREDITS</b> |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                 | 3                            | 5              |
| <i>Add rows if necessary. The organisation of teaching and the teaching methods used are described in detail at (d).</i>                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                 |                              |                |
| <b>COURSE TYPE</b><br><i>general background,<br/> special background,<br/> specialized general knowledge, skills development</i>                                                                                                                                           | GENERAL BACKGROUND, SPECIAL BACKGROUND                          |                              |                |
| <b>PREREQUISITE COURSES:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | NO                                                              |                              |                |
| <b>LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION and EXAMINATIONS:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | GREEK                                                           |                              |                |
| <b>IS THE COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | YES                                                             |                              |                |
| <b>COURSE WEBSITE (URL)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <a href="https://www.econ.uth.gr/">https://www.econ.uth.gr/</a> |                              |                |

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

#### Learning Outcomes

*The course learning outcomes, specific knowledge, skills and competences of an appropriate level, which the students will acquire with the successful completion of the course are described.*

*Consult Appendix A*

- Description of the level of learning outcomes for each qualifications*

*cycle, according to the Qualifications Framework of the European Higher Education Area*

- *Descriptors for Levels 6, 7 & 8 of the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning and Appendix B*
- *Guidelines for writing Learning Outcomes*

By the end of the lectures, students should be able to:

- Understand the structure and functioning of the welfare state and the constraints it faces in modern societies.
- Understand the reasons for and the mechanisms of state intervention in social protection.
- Identify and evaluate the different financing methods of the social protection system.
- Analyze and assess implemented social protection policies.

### **General Competences**

Taking into consideration the general competences that the degree-holder must acquire (as these appear in the Diploma Supplement and appear below), at which of the following does the course aim?

|                                                                                                             |                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Search for, analysis and synthesis of data and information, with the use of the necessary technology</i> | <i>Search for, analysis and synthesis of data and information, with the use of the necessary technology</i> |
| <i>Adapting to new situations</i>                                                                           | <i>Adapting to new situations</i>                                                                           |
| <i>Decision-making</i>                                                                                      | <i>Decision-making</i>                                                                                      |
| <i>Working independently</i>                                                                                | <i>Working independently</i>                                                                                |
| <i>Team work</i>                                                                                            | <i>Team work</i>                                                                                            |
| <i>Working in an international environment</i>                                                              | <i>Working in an international environment</i>                                                              |
| <i>Working in an interdisciplinary environment</i>                                                          | <i>Working in an interdisciplinary environment</i>                                                          |
| <i>Production of new research ideas</i>                                                                     | <i>Production of new research ideas</i>                                                                     |

- Search for, analysis and synthesis of data and information
- Working independently
- Evaluation of existing welfare-state systems and decision-making regarding the contemporary challenges they face.
- Study and analysis of income distribution phenomena, socio-economic inequalities and health inequalities, and evaluation of current policies.
- Practice of critical thinking.
- Promotion of free, creative and inductive reasoning.

### **COURSE CONTENT**

This course focuses on the analysis of social policies (mainly in health, the labour market, poverty and social insurance) through the lens of economic efficiency and social justice, and on the importance of social, economic and political factors that affect the goals and implementation of social policy.

Specifically, the lecture topics are:

1. Basic concepts related to the social protection system (definition, categories, revenues, expenditures).
2. Historical development and the crisis of the welfare state.
3. Economic theory and social protection (economic efficiency, decision-making process, social justice and welfare, income redistribution).
4. Reasons for state intervention in the social sector (Fisher model, information failures, uncertainty, adverse selection, moral hazard).
5. The insurance system — the pension system.
6. The health care system.
7. The unemployment alleviation system.
8. The poverty alleviation system.
9. The education system.
10. Cross-country comparisons.

### TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS - EVALUATION

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                    |                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>DELIVERY</b><br><i>Face-to-face, Distance learning, etc.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Face to face                                                                                                                                                       |                          |
| <b>USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY</b><br><i>Use of ICT in teaching, laboratory education, communication with students</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | ➤ Use of e-class for lecture notes and material and communication with the students<br>➤ Use of electronic means to present the lectures (for example, powerpoint) |                          |
| <b>TEACHING METHODS</b><br><i>The manner and methods of teaching are described in detail.</i><br><i>Lectures, seminars, laboratory practice, fieldwork, study and analysis of bibliography, tutorials, placements, clinical practice, art workshop, interactive teaching, educational visits, project, essay writing, artistic creativity, etc.</i><br><i>The student's study hours for each learning activity are given as well as the hours of non-directed study according to the principles of the ECTS</i> | <b>Activity</b>                                                                                                                                                    | <b>Semester Workload</b> |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Lectures                                                                                                                                                           | 39                       |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Study of bibliography                                                                                                                                              | 83                       |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Case studies discussion                                                                                                                                            | 24                       |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Mid-term exams                                                                                                                                                     | 2                        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Exams                                                                                                                                                              | 2                        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                    |                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Course total                                                                                                                                                       | <b>150</b>               |
| <b>STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | The final course grade is determined by:<br>a) Written examinations at the end of the semester (100% of the final grade).<br>or alternatively by participation in: |                          |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Description of the evaluation procedure</p> <p>Language of evaluation, methods of evaluation, summative or conclusive, multiple-choice questionnaires, short-answer questions, open-ended questions, problem solving, written work, essay/report, oral examination, public presentation, laboratory work, clinical examination of patient, art interpretation, other.</p> <p>Specifically-defined evaluation criteria are given, and if and where they are accessible to students.</p> | <p>b) An alternative written progress exam (100% of the final grade).</p> <p>Optional grade-improvement assignment:<br/>A critical analysis and presentation of a case study on the implementation of social policy objectives (30%).</p> <p>ERASMUS students follow the above assessment methods, but instruction and examination are conducted in English.</p> |
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#### RECOMMENDED BIBLIOGRAPHY

##### BOOKS IN GREEK:

- Χλέτσος Μ., 2011. «Οικονομικά της Κοινωνικής Προστασίας», (εκδ.) Πατάκης, Αθήνα, σελ. 260 (κωδ. ΕΥΔΟΞΟΣ: 12718429).
- Τζαγκαράκης Στυλιανός (2023). Κριτικές και συγκριτικές διαστάσεις της κοινωνικής πολιτικής στην permacrisis εποχή. Αθήνα: 1<sup>η</sup> έκδ., εκδόσεις ΤΖΙΟΛΑ (Κωδικός βιβλίου στον Εύδοξο: 122082054).
- Παπαθεοδώρου Χρίστος, Σακελλαρόπουλος Θεόδωρος (2020). Τα Οικονομικά της Κοινωνικής Πολιτικής. Αθήνα: 1<sup>η</sup> έκδ., εκδόσεις ΤΣΟΤΡΑΣ ΑΕ (Κωδικός βιβλίου στον Εύδοξο: 122076406).
- Χλέτσος Μιχάλης (2008). Από την πρόνοια στην εργασία. Αθήνα: 1<sup>η</sup> έκδ., εκδόσεις ΚΡΙΤΙΚΗ (Κωδικός βιβλίου στον Εύδοξο: 11464).
- Spicker Paul (2004). Το κράτος πρόνοιας: μια γενική θεωρία. Αθήνα: 1<sup>η</sup> έκδ., εκδόσεις ΔΙΟΝΙΚΟΣ (Κωδικός βιβλίου στον Εύδοξο: 237)
- Ματσαγγάνης Μ., 2011. «Η κοινωνική πολιτική σε δύσκολους καιρούς», (εκδ.) ΚΡΙΤΙΚΗ, Αθήνα, σελ. 231. (κωδ. ΕΥΔΟΞΟΣ: 12509121).
- Ματσαγγάνης Μ., 2004. «Η κοινωνική αλληλεγγύη και οι αντιφάσεις της», (εκδ.) ΚΡΙΤΙΚΗ, Αθήνα, σελ. 189. (κωδ. ΕΥΔΟΞΟΣ: 11583).

For Erasmus students, electronic material (notes, papers, policy papers, etc) are provided.