



Universidad  
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***Quantitative Methods II A***

*Guía docente 2025-26*

**PRESENTATION**

Description of the course: The objective of this course is to provide the basic elements of linear algebra and optimization, necessary for learning other subjects of the degrees in Economics and Business Administration and Management.

The subject is essential to understand and use the quantitative economic models and to solve complex problems with many variables (impossible to synthesize intuitively). In addition, the subject helps to streamline reasoning, structure the mind, facilitate abstract thinking and the capacity for interrelation.

**Facultad:** School of Economics and Business

**Department:** Economics

**ECTS:** 6 (150 h)

**Year:** 1º

**Semester:** 2º

**Language:** English

**Start and ending dates:** according to the academic calendar

**Schedule:**

To be announced.

**Professors:**

David Rivero, [driverol@unav.es](mailto:driverol@unav.es), office 4020.

Pedro Mendi, [pmendi@unav.es](mailto:pmendi@unav.es), office 4050.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES (Competencies)**

**Basic:**

BC1 - Students have demonstrated knowledge and understanding in a field of study that builds on general secondary education, and is typically at a level that, while supported by advanced textbooks, also includes some aspects involving knowledge from the forefront of their field of study.

BC3 - Students can gather and interpret relevant data (usually within their field of study) to make judgments that include reflections on relevant social, scientific, or ethical issues.



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BC5 - Students have developed the learning skills necessary to undertake further studies with a high degree of autonomy.

**General:**

GC4 - Reason autonomously and critically on issues relevant to economics and business.

**Specific:**

SC5 - Apply mathematical reasoning and/or quantitative tools to the analysis of economic reality.

SC6 - Use software tools in the quantitative and/or qualitative analysis of economic and/or business issues with sound judgment.

SC8 - Apply economic logic and/or econometric techniques to specific areas of Economics.

SC14 - Apply economic logic and/or econometric techniques to specific areas of finance.

## **PROGRAMME\***

### **Block 1: Linear Algebra**

#### **Chapter 1: Matrices, determinants and systems**

##### **1.1. Definition of matrix**

##### **1.2 Operations with matrices**

##### **1.3 Special kinds of matrices**

##### **1.4 Determinant of a matrix**

##### **1.5 Rank of a matrix**

##### **1.6 Invertible matrices**

##### **1.7 Systems of linear equations**

##### **1.8 Systems of nonlinear equations**

#### **Chapter 2: Applications of matrices and systems**

##### **2.1 Matrix applications**

##### **2.2 Applications of systems of equations**

### **Block 2: Multivariate Calculus and Optimization**



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## Chapter 3: Multivariate functions and differentiability

### 3.1 Functions of two variables

### 3.2 Functions of several variables

### 3.3 Derivatives of multivariate functions. Partial Derivatives

### 3.4 The Chain Rule

### 3.5 Implicit function theorem

### 3.6 Homogeneous and Homothetic functions. Euler's Theorem

### 3.7 Linear approximations. Differentials

### 3.8 Partial Derivatives Applications

## Chapter 4: Unconstrained optimization

### 4.1 Functions of two variables

### 4.2 Critical points of a function

### 4.3 Extreme Value Theorem

### 4.4 Second order conditions, maxima and minima of a function

### 4.5 Convex sets. Convex and Concave functions

### 4.6 Second derivative tests for concavity and convexity

### 4.7 Envelope theorem for unconstrained problems

## Chapter 5: Optimization with equality constraints

### 5.1 Formulation of the problem

### 5.2 The substitution method

### 5.3 The Lagrange multiplier method

### 5.4 The meaning of the multiplier

### 5.5 Sufficient conditions

### 5.6 General Lagrangian problems.

### 5.7 Envelope theorem for constrained problems



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## Chapter 6: Optimization with inequality constraints

### 6.1 Linear programming

### 6.2 Non-linear problems: Kuhn-Tucker method for one inequality constraint

**\*Note:** The order of some contents of the proposed Syllabus is subject to change.

## **ACTIVITIES**

In this section the overall methodology of the subject is detailed and the student's workload hours are estimated. There will be face-to-face and non-face-to-face activities.´

### **Face-to-face classes: (60 total hours)**

a) Theoretical classes. 15 classes of 2 hours, the most important points of each topic from the notes of the subject given by the teacher will be exposed. The theory of the subject will be explained with examples and economic applications.

b) Practical classes. 15 classes of 2 hours. Key problems of advanced difficulty of the different topics are solved. Students will be divided into 2 groups to attend one face-to-face class per week.

### **Office hours:**

During each week of the course and according to the academic calendar, there will be 3 hours dedicated to online office hours at the time indicated in the office hours section. These office hours may be used to resolve doubts raised by students

### **Personal study: (84 hours)**

The main non-presential activity will be the personal study of the subject.

The minimum number of hours estimated is 75, although this number may be increased depending on the level of the student and their prior knowledge of the subject.

### **Evaluation: (6 hours)**

It corresponds to the hours of the exam and the hours of tests in class. In total, throughout the course, there will be 9 hours of written exam (partial and final).

## **EVALUATION**

### **Honesty Policy**

We value honesty. There can be no trust or meaningful social relationships without it. Therefore, the Faculty expects honesty and justice from all its members: professors,



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administrative staff and students. The dishonesty will be sanctioned in accordance with the University Norms on the Academic Discipline of Students of August 2015 that include lying, cheating on exams, and plagiarism of written works. We take these offenses seriously. Depending on its severity, the subject teacher, the vice-dean of students, and in very serious cases, the vice-rector of students will be in charge of its sanction.

Sanctions include:

- formal reprimands
- expulsion from the University for a period
- loss of examination session
- Loss of scholarships suspended in the grade of the work or the subject

## Ordinary evaluation:

**SE1. Continuous work in the subject (10%):** In the practical classes, exercises will be proposed to be solved, which must be submitted at the end of the class. They will account for 10% of the final grade in the regular assessment.

**SE2. Partial evaluation of theoretical and practical contents of the subject (35%):**

There will be a longer midterm exam (3 hours) that will account for 35% of the final grade in the regular assessment.

**SE3. Final evaluation of theoretical and practical content (55%):**

It will cover all the subject. It will have a value of 55% of the final grade of the ordinary evaluation and will consist of taking a 3-hour exam.

The student should obtain at least a 4 in the final exam to be averaged with the rest of the grades in the subject.

The evaluation criteria applicable to all learning activities are as follows:

- Ability to understand and explain the fundamental concepts of the course.
- Skill in applying theoretical knowledge to solve specific problems.
- Ability to justify solutions and perform a critical analysis of results.
- Clarity and precision in presenting results, both in written and oral form.

For practical sessions requiring the use of software tools, additional consideration will be given to efficiency in using specialized software and interpreting results.

## Extraordinary evaluation:

In case of not passing the subject and using the extraordinary evaluation, the percentages of the evaluation system will become:

**SE1. Continuous work in the subject (5%):** In the practical classes, exercises will be proposed to be solved, which must be submitted at the end of the class. They will account for 5% of the final grade in the extraordinary assessment.



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**SE2. Partial evaluation of theoretical and practical contents of the subject (20%):**

**SE3. Final evaluation of theoretical and practical content (75%):**

**It will cover all the subject. It will have a value of 75% of the final grade of the extraordinary evaluation and will consist of taking a 3-hour exam.**

The student should obtain at least a 4 in the final exam to be averaged with the rest of the grades in the subject.

The evaluation criteria will be the same as in the ordinary assesment.

## OFFICE HOURS

To be determined.

## REFERENCES

### Bibliography and resources

Quantitative Methods II for Economics and Business Administration Students. Ignacio Rodríguez & Anastasia Terskaya.

Matemáticas para la Economía. Jarne G., Pérez-Grasa I., Minguillón E. Ed. McGraw Hill. [Find it in the library](#)

Mathematics for Economists. Carl P. Simon and Lawrence Blume. WW Norton & Co. [Find it in the library](#)

Essential Mathematics for Economic Analysis. Knut Sydsaeter, Peter Hammond, Arne Strøm and Andrés Carvajal. Fifth Edition. Ed. Pearson. [Find it in the library](#)

### Complimentary Bibliography

Matemáticas para la Economía. Programación Matemática y Sistemas Dinámicos. Isabel Pérez-Grasa, Esperanza Minguillón, Gloria Jarne. Ed. McGrawHill. [Find it in the library](#)

Fundamental methods of mathematical economics/Alpha C. Chiang, Kevin Wainwright. Boston, Mass.: McGraw-Hill/Irwin. [Find it in the library](#)