

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	2
Department of Economics Welcome	3
SECTION 1: GETTING STARTED	4
Aims and objectives	4
Pre-requisite qualifications	4
Important dates 2024-25	5
Resident academics and administrative staff	6
MSc Board of Studies	7
Useful web links	7
SECTION 2: PROGRAMME STRUCTURE	8
Programme structure	8
MSc teaching timetables	9
Attending lectures and classes	9
Module descriptions	10
Dissertation guidelines (ECN5222)	14
Research seminars	19
SECTION 3: ASSESSMENT	20
Assessment methods and criteria	20
Late submissions	23
Plagiarism	23
Publication of results and revision of paper	23
Graduation	24
SECTION 4: COMMUNICATION	25
Key contacts	25
University of Malta email	25
eSIMS	25
Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)	26
SECTION 5: GETTING SUPPORT	27

Department of Economics Welcome

Welcome to the Masters course in Economics at the University of Malta.

I hope that, over the coming months, you will find your course to be interesting and rewarding and that your time here is enjoyable and worthwhile.

The MSc in Economics programme aims is to equip and prepare students with the skills and confidence required to engage in professional work as a research economist, including being able to initiate their own exploration of important economic questions. The programme is offered on a full-time basis over one academic year, with core economics modules taught in the first semester, field-specific modules taught in the second semester, and dissertation-related work to be carried out over three semesters. As we strive to continuously improve the quality of the programme, this year we are introducing an optional applied machine learning module. The programme is run almost entirely from within the department, ensuring that students have continuous access to academic staff.

This Handbook is intended as a reference guide for all MSc students undertaking their studies in the field of economics, covering all aspects of the programme. You should read it carefully and refer to it if you have any questions later. It includes a description of the structure of the MSc programme, the teaching and assessment methods, the dissertation guidelines, how to communicate, and other information.

My colleagues and I wish you a very enjoyable and rewarding year!

Dr Carl Camilleri

Head of Department

SECTION 1: GETTING STARTED

Aims and objectives

The MSc programme in Economics aims to equip students with the essential tools of economics at an advanced level, and teaches them how to apply these principles to study real world issues. It aims to turn students into economic generalists, while offering them the possibility to become specialists in well-defined focus areas.

At the end of the programme students should be able to read, understand and critically evaluate articles in academic journals, to build theoretical models, to initiate their own empirical research and evaluate its findings, and to draw policy conclusions from both theoretical and empirical analysis.

Our objective is to produce graduates with the training required to pursue a career in economic analysis in the private and the public sectors or civil society, or to apply the principles and skills taught in the programme in other careers. It also prepares students who wish to pursue a research or academic career in economics.

Pre-requisite qualifications

The MSc in economics is taught over three semesters – equivalent to one academic year – on a full-time basis. Students following the course should be in possession of one of the following qualifications:

- Degree of Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) in Economics with at least Second Class Honours; or
- Degree of Bachelor of Commerce with Economics as one of the two main areas of study, obtained with at least Category II; or
- Degree with at least Second Class Honours or Category II, in any other area deemed relevant by the Board of Studies.

Students admitted to the programme under paragraphs (b) and (c) may be required to follow and pass supplementary study-unit/s, as recommended by the Board of Studies, to which a maximum of 12 ECTS credits are assigned, in addition to the programme of study for the attainment of the MSc in Economics.

Important dates 2024-25

Below is a list of important dates relating to the programme.

First Semester	
30 September 2024	Opening Ceremony
1 October 2024	Introductory MSc meeting
4 October 2024	Informal drinks
1 October 2024 – 19 January 2025	Lectures
20 December 2024 - 5 January 2025	Christmas recess
20 January 2025 - 7 February 2025	Exams period
Second Semester	
11 February 2025 – 1 June 2025	Lectures
14 April 2025 – 27 April 2025	Easter recess
2 June 2025 - 27 June 2025	Exams period
Summer Semester	
28 June 2025 - 26 September 2025	Work on dissertation
1 August 2025 – 15 August 2025	Summer recess
30 September 2025	Dissertation submission
To be announced (March 2025)	Graduation

These may change throughout the course of the programme. You can check for any updates [here](#).

Resident academics and administrative staff

Name	Office	Email
Resident academics		
Dr Rose Marie Azzopardi	Room 301	rose.m.azzopardi@um.edu.mt
Prof Joseph Bonnici	Room 309	josef.bonnici@um.edu.mt
Dr Marie Briguglio **	Room 302	marie.briguglio@um.edu.mt
Dr Carl Camilleri *	Room 305	carl.camilleri@um.edu.mt
Dr Ian P. Cassar	Room 308	ian.p.cassar@um.edu.mt
Dr Daniel Gravino	Room 307	daniel.gravino@um.edu.mt
Dr Charmaine Portelli	Room 306	charmaine.portelli@um.edu.mt
Prof Philip von Brockdorff	Room 303	philip.von-brockdorff@um.edu.mt
Administrative staff		
Mr Keith Cauchi	Room 304	keith.cauchi@um.edu.mt

* *Head of department*

** *MSc programme coordinator*

The Department of Economics is also supported by several visiting academics as well as other resident academics at University of Malta from other departments. A complete list of all resident and visiting academics, including their respective profiles and research interests, can be accessed [here](#).



MSc Board of Studies

The Programme of Study will be administered by the Board of Studies. The Board's functions include:

- Implementing the regulations and bye-laws governing the Programme of Study;
- Monitoring and evaluating the Programme of Study;
- Making proposals for the revision of the Programme of Study as necessary; and
- Monitoring the assessments and the procedures used in the assessment of the performance of the students.

The Board of Studies will be composed as follows:

- Dr Carl Camilleri (Head of Department)
- Dr Marie Briguglio (academic member of staff)
- Dr Daniel Gravino (academic member of staff)
- Student representative 1
- Student representative 2

Mr Keith Cauchi (administrator) shall attend meetings of the Board of Studies.

The student representatives are to be nominated by 31 October 2023 by sending an email to Mr Keith Cauchi at keith.cauchi@um.edu.mt.

Useful web links

University website: https://www.um.edu.mt
Departmental website: https://www.um.edu.mt/fema/economics
University Regulations: http://www.um.edu.mt/registrar/regulations/general
FEMA student resources: https://www.um.edu.mt/fema/students
Department's Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/um.economicsdepartment
Campus map: http://www.um.edu.mt/campusmap

SECTION 2: PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Programme structure

The MSc in Economics is taught over three semesters (or one academic year). The modules comprising the MSc are listed below, alongside the corresponding ECTS credit value which is a measure of the intended contact and study time pertaining to each unit. Indicatively, 1 ECTS is equivalent to 25 hours of total learning, including contact hours, self-study and assessment hours. Of these, 5-7 hours are lectures. In total, the MSc in Economics involves 90 ECTS, of which, 60 ECTS are assigned to taught study-units and 30 ECTS are assigned to the dissertation study-unit.

Code	Unit Title	ECTS	Semester
ECN5223	Advanced Econometrics (*)	10 ECTS	1
ECN5210	Advanced Microeconomics (*)	5 ECTS	1
ECN5211	Advanced Macroeconomics (*)	5 ECTS	1
ECN5214	Applied Math for Micro and Macro Economics (*)	5 ECTS	1
ECN5228	Economics Research in Theory and Practice (*)	5 ECTS	1
ECN5217	Environmental and Resource Economics	5 ECTS	2
ECN5220	Monetary Policy and the Financial System	5 ECTS	2
ECN5227	Economics of Ageing Populations	5 ECTS	2
ECN5229	Behavioural and Experimental Economics	5 ECTS	2
ECN5230	Economics of Labour Markets and Human Potential	5 ECTS	2
ECN5801	The Global Economy	5 ECTS	2
ICS5110	Applied Machine Learning	5 ECTS	2
ECN5222	Dissertation (*)	30 ECTS	3

The modules marked (*) are compulsory and will be taught in Semester 1. In Semester 2, the students are to choose six out of seven modules. Information regarding the individual modules, including a description of the material covered, the learning outcomes, the method of assessment and the suggested textbooks, can be found [here](#).

MSc teaching timetables

You can access the timetable [here](#). This is updated regularly and it is your responsibility to consult it regularly. You will notice that some courses span a whole semester while others are delivered over a shorter and more intensive time span. Any last minute changes in relation to specific lectures will be communicated to you via VLE or by email.

Attending lectures and classes

Attendance for lectures, tutorials, seminars, fieldwork and any other teaching sessions in whatever mode is obligatory. Lecturers will record your attendance or absence. On the basis of documented evidence, a lecturer may bar a student whose attendance in a study-unit is not satisfactory from being assessed in that study-unit. In such cases a 0 mark and an F grade shall be assigned and recorded.

Students who fail a study-unit due to ineligibility to take the first assessment because of failure to satisfy the attendance requirement shall not be allowed a supplementary assessment, unless in special circumstances with the approval of the Board of Examiners. In such cases, the Board of Examiners shall impose special requirements on the student to make up for the missed teaching sessions.

Module descriptions

ECN5223 Advanced Econometrics

Students of econometrics are often motivated by empirical applications. This module is designed with this in mind, but good use of econometrics requires that students learn enough econometric theory to understand its strengths and limitations. Against this background, the module aims to: introduce you to aspects of theoretical econometrics; expose you to econometric techniques used in empirical economics; enable you to read and criticise applied econometrics papers published in leading economics journals; and help you acquire the skills required to carry out empirical research. Among the topics covered in this module are the maximum likelihood estimation methods, instrumental variables, time series analysis, panel data, binary choice models and treatment evaluation methods. A detailed list of topics that will be covered by this module can be accessed [here](#).

ECN5210 Advanced Microeconomics

The study-unit covers advanced microeconomic theory, with strong emphasis on applied theory. The aim is to provide you with a rigorous understanding of the key concepts and techniques that underpin modern microeconomic research, as well as a flavour of the latest developments within the discipline. The ultimate objective is to enable you to utilise the material learned in order to undertake your own economic research within various academic and policy-related settings, and to apply these tools in their professional life. The topics covered include consumer and producer theory, general equilibrium, game theory, imperfectly competitive markets, signalling and bargaining. A detailed list of topics that will be covered by this module can be accessed [here](#).

ECN5211 Advanced Macroeconomics

The study-unit aims to assist students in achieving an understanding of modern macroeconomic thinking and its consequences for macroeconomic policymaking especially in the light of the international financial crisis and the recent Covid-19 pandemic. It also aims to provide you with an understanding of the way in which the Eurozone economy works with a centralised monetary policy and decentralised fiscal policy. In addition, the unit will provide you with an understanding of the role of the financial system in macroeconomic fluctuations. A list of topics that will be covered by this module can be accessed [here](#).

ECN5214 Applied Mathematics for Micro and Macro Economics

This study-unit develops the students' understanding of mathematical techniques and methods required for economic application and analysis. More specifically students will learn how to read and understand arguments in textbooks and journal articles that use mathematical techniques in modern economic analysis; grasp the relevance and use of modern mathematical techniques in their applications in theoretical and applied economics; apply standard quantitative techniques to the analysis of economic phenomena and to conduct empirical research; develop models in theoretical or applied work; and understand the theoretical foundations of quantitative techniques. A list of topics that will be covered by this module can be accessed [here](#).

ECN5228 Economics Research in Theory and Practice

The unit aims to provide you with an overview of the conceptual, philosophical and particularly practical basis of research methodology in economics as well as on how to plan, design, conduct, evaluate and critique actual research – as applied to potential research projects that students themselves will be working on. The unit integrates the various components of economics to accomplish a defined, goal-directed research. It therefore pulls together various aspects of economic theories, methods, and analysis to present in a coherent, logical, reliable and useful manner with emphasis on ‘real world’ problems and the application of economic research to them. The unit also includes overviews of the range of possible methods in economics including Econometrics, Input-Output analysis, Cost Benefit Analysis and Experimental methods. Scientific communication, especially academic writing, and the ability to relate economic knowledge to the public are also covered. Students will also be exposed to notions of FAIR data, Responsible Research and Innovation and Research Ethics and Data Protection issues. A list of topics that will be covered by this module can be accessed [here](#).

ECN5217 Environmental and Resource Economics

This unit aims to provide students with a balanced, comprehensive and contemporary overview of both the theoretical and empirical developments relating to the area of environmental economics and policy and natural resource economics. The subject content is presented in a way that gives you a solid theoretical foundation together with relevant applications spanning essential topics in both environmental and resource economics. A list of topics that will be covered by this module can be accessed [here](#).

ECN5220 Monetary Policy and the Financial System

Since the financial crisis of 2008 and the sovereign debt crisis of 2010-2012, monetary policy has ventured into new non-standard measures that have had a significant effect not only on macroeconomic variables but also on financial markets. This study-unit provides a thorough overview of these new policies and how they affect the financial system. The unit should also be of value to those who work in the commercial banking sector, central banks and the financial sector in general. It aims to provide practical as well as theoretical knowledge of the impact of monetary policy not only in normal times but also during financial crises. A list of topics that will be covered by this module can be accessed [here](#).

ECN5227 Economics of Ageing Populations

The aim of this study-unit is to provide students with an understanding of the main issues related to pensions, ageing and health. The study-unit provides an overview of the theoretical and empirical tools that will enable you to analyse the implications of ageing particularly on the provision of pensions and healthcare. The unit aims to provide you with the necessary tools for a better understanding of the current issues and future challenges in this area of economics. A list of topics that will be covered by this module can be accessed [here](#).

ECN5229 Behavioural and Experimental Economics

The aim of this study-unit is to introduce the subject of behavioural economics and experimental methods. It seeks to provide you with an understanding of how human beings make decisions, how such decisions can be influenced in a world where individuals are not perfectly rational. A main aim is to give you access to new sources of data and to help you access and contribute to an enlarged set of economic propositions that can be validated, and new theoretical directions. A list of topics that will be covered by this module can be accessed [here](#).

ECN5230 Economics of Labour Markets and Human Potential

The aim of this study-unit is to introduce students to a rigorous economic analysis of the role labour plays in the economy. It provides regression analysis of returns to educational investments, risk and incentives resulting in wage differentials. By the end of this study-unit, students should be able to apply theoretical models to analyse economic issues related with labour market policies, unionization, and migration. A list of topics that will be covered by this module can be accessed [here](#).

ECN5801 The Global Economy

The aim of this study-unit is to introduce students to a rigorous economic analysis of global economic relationships. By the end of this study-unit, you should be able to apply theoretical models to analyse real world problems related to trade, migration, economic integration, international currencies, and capital flows. A list of topics that will be covered by this module can be accessed [here](#).

ICS5110 Applied Machine Learning

This study-unit focuses on the applications of machine learning techniques to different contexts. The emphasis is on the following topics: ML principle and types; extracting statistical information and structure from data; traditional ML techniques and probabilistic modelling; classification and clustering; artificial neural networks and backpropagation; deep neural networks; reinforcement learning; evaluating the performance of ML models; and practical optimization problems. More detail about the module is provided [here](#).



Dissertation guidelines (ECN5222)

Guidance on the process of completing your dissertation will be provided in ECN5228 Economics Research in Theory and Practice. Below is brief guide on the objectives, supervision and other aspects related to the dissertation.

Dissertation objectives

The main aim of the dissertation is to encourage you to take on independent study and to provide a foundation for future original research. In terms of learning, the dissertation should provide you with a number of research skills, including the ability to:

- Define a feasible project allowing for time and resource constraints;
- Apply an adequate methodology;
- Make optimal use of library resources;
- Access databases, understand their uses and limitations and extract relevant data;
- Work without the need for continuous supervision.

Topic selection and allocation of supervisors

Your first task is to determine the dissertation topic and method. It is critical that you choose a topic that you are really interested in and which is feasible for you to do in the time you have. You should seek guidance regarding the feasibility of applying your preferred methodology through active participation in ECN5228 Economics Research in Theory and Practice. You can also browse the staff personal web pages for areas of research interest in the Department of Economics.

You will have the opportunity to present a topic as your possible dissertation area. Following feedback and the assignment of a supervisor, you will be asked to submit a formal Dissertation Title Form to the Department Secretary through the link available [here](#).

The role of the supervisor

Your dissertation supervisor will be allocated by mid-November. The role of the supervisor is to:

- Advise you on the feasibility of your chosen topic and ways of refining it;
- Provide some references to the general methodology to be used; and
- Provide general guidance to the literature review and analysis of the chosen topic.

Your supervisor will allocate sufficient time for up to five meetings. A draft version of your dissertation is to be submitted to your supervisor by 5th September 2025 such that there is

sufficient time for the supervisor to provide feedback, do revisions and submit a final draft by 30th September 2025. Your supervisor is not expected to be available during the summer recess – so you are advised to plan your work accordingly.

Following each meeting with your supervisor, you are to fill up the form available [here](#). Prior to submission, you should seek the supervisors' approval regarding the 'main outcomes of meeting' identified in the form.

The dissertation proposal

You will be required to prepare a draft proposal by the first week of November. This will help you focus your ideas. Based on the feedback you receive, and after presenting your proposal in the last session of ECN5228, you will revise your dissertation proposal and resubmit it by the date indicated in this handbook. The final dissertation proposal form can be found [here](#). It should be submitted to the department's administrator, Mr Keith Cauchi, by email at keith.cauchi@um.edu.mt.

Research ethics and data protection

FEMA's Faculty Research Ethics Committee (FREC) is responsible for the review of ethics and data protection issues related to all research in the Faculty. More information and the form by which to self-assess and submit an application for records or for review can be found [here](#). You are also strongly advised to refer to the set of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on UREC's website that can be found [here](#).



Change of dissertation title

As a result of the refinement of their research question, students may request a change in the title of their dissertation. The form to request the change can be found [here](#). It should be submitted to the department's administrator, Mr Keith Cauchi, by email at keith.cauchi@um.edu.mt.

Guidelines of style

General	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Font: Times New Roman throughout;• Length: The main text of the dissertation, excluding declaration, acknowledgements, abstract, table of contents, illustrations, references and any appendices shall be 15,000 words.
Title page	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Title of Paper: 16 pt bold, upper case, bold, 16 pt, centred, followed by two line spaces;• Name of Author: Title case (name to start with a capital letter), 14 pt, centred, followed by some line spaces;• Text: Dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the award of the degree MSc (Economics): Sentence case, 12 pt;• Date: Date of submission of dissertation.
Declaration of authenticity (DOA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are two DOAs and these are different forms;• The form with the student details to be attached in email to the Department Secretary. The form can be found here;• The form without the student details to be included within the document itself as per the Library guidelines can be found here;• Refer to this link for additional details: here.
Acknowledgements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be on a separate page;• Font Size: 12 pt except for heading which can be bold and of a larger font size;• Text: Acknowledge assistance or support given to the candidate.
Contents page	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be on separate pages;• Font Size: lines referring to headings of chapters 12 pt;• Lines referring to secondary headings indented 10 pt;• Lines referring to tertiary headings indented 10 pt.
Main body of dissertation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Font Size: 12 pt not bold, except for headings;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spacing: 1.5 line spacing and skip a line for new paragraphs.
Headings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissertation title: 16 pt, bold, upper case, centred; • Chapter headings: 14 pt, bold, upper case, centred; • Section first level headings: 12 pt, bold, upper case; • Sub-section (second level) headings: 12 pt, bold sentence case; • Sub-sub section (third level) headings: 12 pt, sentence case, italic.
Tables and diagrams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tables and diagrams are to be consecutively numbered and centred, and included in an appropriate place in the text. The titles of tables and diagrams are to be placed on top, 12 pt bold, title case. N.B. Tables count towards the word limit and must therefore be used sparingly. Tables can be included in the Appendix and referred to in the text (these do not count towards the word limit); • For statistical significance levels use ***, **, * for 0.01, 0.05, 0.1.
Citations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citations are to be entered in the text at the appropriate place by stating the surname of the author/s and the date of publication e.g. Brown (2001) or (Brown, 2001; Green, 2002) or (Brown, 2001: 33) where the number after the colon indicates the page number (the page number should be entered when an author is quoted, or when reference is made to a specific section of the publication). If there are more than two authors of a single publication, cite the first author only and add et al. e.g. (Brown et al., 2001).
References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The publications cited are to be listed in the references section at the end of the dissertation, in alphabetical order of the authors' surnames. Do not divide the list of references into many sections, such as, books, articles, etc. List all publications together, as this makes it easier to trace the author of the cited publication; • APA Style is suggested for the references: here.
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acronyms: When an organization (or some other entity) is mentioned for the first time give its name in full followed by the acronym in brackets e.g. United Nations (UN). Subsequently, only the acronym can be used. It is a good idea to present a list of acronyms in the dissertation; • Footnotes: Avoid footnotes when possible; • Numbers: One to twenty in words, and 21 and onwards in figures. A series of numbers is to be given in figures; • Spelling: Use English (UK) spelling and use English (UK) spell-check; • List of tables and list of figures: These may be listed after the contents page.

Submitting the dissertation for examination

An electronic copy must be submitted through the VLE webpage using Turnitin and also via email to Mr Keith Cauchi at keith.cauchi@um.edu.mt. It must be the exact same copy. The filename of each document should contain the student code followed with an underscore and the number of the file which will be uploaded, e.g. 12345M_1. When the same student has more than one file, the last digit of the filename should be incremented by 1, e.g. 12345M_1 12345M_2. The declaration of authenticity must be submitted separately via email. The Declaration of Authenticity Ethics Code is the one showing in the Ethics form (FEMA-2024-000###). Should there be no need for any amendments this will be considered as your final submission. You are *not* to submit a hardbound copy.

Dissertation milestones

6-7 December 2024	Presentation of proposal
20 December 2024	Formal submission of dissertation title form
10 July 2025	Last date for change of dissertation title
5 September 2025	Submission of a complete draft to supervisor (allow 2 weeks for supervisor comments)
30 September 2025	Submission of final draft for examination
30 December 2025	If any minor amendments (e.g. typo corrections) are requested by the Examination Board, amend as instructed. Resubmit the amended PDF. Ignore this step if no amendments are requested.

Research seminars

In addition to the modules, MSc students are encouraged to attend research seminars in the Department and elsewhere. Speakers are mainly academics from our university or other institutions that carry out work in the field of economics, such as the Economics Policy Department (Ministry for Finance), the Central Bank of Malta, and the Malta Financial Services Authority. They provide a window to the wider research community. Information will be circulated via Facebook.



SECTION 3: ASSESSMENT

Assessment methods and criteria

Assessment may take various forms such as assignments, examinations, presentations and other methods as identified in each study-unit description. An assessment may be held during and/or at the end of the semester and it may be split into several components (e.g. 30% assignment; 70% exam). Exams are only held during the examination periods at the end of each semester.

Lecturers together with the relevant Board of Examiners have the discretion to award the final mark and grade they deem fair. If students fail an assessment, they will generally have the opportunity of being re-assessed in the particular component/s. The Supplementary exam session is held in September and the maximum mark/grade one can achieve during re-sit is 45% (D*).

Students are expected to be critical, reflective and analytical in their assignments. Simply reproducing lecture notes and being descriptive will not earn good marks. Assignments are to be proof read and correctly referenced in accordance to the APA style of reference. The following is the link to the APA Style website: <https://apastyle.apa.org/>. Students are expected to stick to the set deadlines and to submit their assignments on time. Failure to do so shall result in penalties.



Below is the criteria used for marking students' work.

Grade	Mark range	Description
A	80-100%	Work of excellent quality Superior performance showing a comprehensive and critical understanding and application of the subject matter. Evidence of extensive additional reading/research/work.
B	70-79%	Work of very good quality Performance showing a very good working knowledge of the subject matter. Evidence of a considerable amount of additional reading/ research/work.
C	55-69%	Work of average quality Average performance, showing a good working knowledge of the subject matter. Evidence of sufficient reading/research/work.
D	50-54%	Work of fair but below average quality Performance showing considerable but incomplete understanding of the subject matter. Evidence of a fair amount of reading/research/work.
E	45-49%	Work of marginal quality Performance showing minimal understanding of the subject matter, with no evidence of additional reading/research/work, which must be compensated by higher marks in other Units in order to be eligible for the Postgraduate Award.
F	0-44%	Unsatisfactory, failing work in any Study-Unit other than a Dissertation.
F	0-49%	Unsatisfactory, poor work in the Dissertation Study-Unit.
F	0%	Unjustified Absence for an assessment, or failure to hand in assigned work in time, or ineligibility to take assessment due to unapproved Absence from lectures. Shall be considered as F with 0 marks in the calculation of the average mark.

The criteria used for marking dissertations are the following:

PRESENTATION	LITERATURE	METHOD, DATA AND ANALYSIS	JUSTIFICATION
Plan of dissertation and organisation of ideas including readability, use of grammar and punctuation, style (Overall)	Evidence of wide reading; Grasp of ideas and handling of material; Accuracy and detail in reference given; (Literature review, Context, and other chapters)	Use of data/Analytical/ Statistical/econometric ability. More broadly, the handling information, concepts, and treatment of the subject. (Method, Data and Analysis chapters)	Originality and relevance (Introduction, Conclusion)
15 Free from detectable issues.	25 Comprehensive and very well handled.	40 Excellent use of methods & very good fit of methodology, and comprehensive critique. Excellent use of data & integration into argument.	20 Highly original. Very well couched in economics and argues relevance very well.
12 Minor issues in use of English and grammar.	20 Reasonably comprehensive and well handled.	32 Good use and explanation of methods, good critique. Data provides good support of the argument.	16 Original. And couched in economics.
9 Noticeable issues in the use of English.	15 Some Minor gaps evident in review and application.	24 Adequate use and explanation of methods, good critique. Data supports most of the claims made in the dissertation.	12 Reasonably original or relevant.
6 Major flaws in the use of English and grammar.	10 Some Major gaps evident in review and application.	16 Weak use and explanation of methods and critique. Links between data and argument are not always clear.	8 A small original contribution and attempt to argue relevance.
3 At times incomprehensible.	5 Many major gaps.	8 Inappropriate methods used and/or no explanation of them or critique. Inadequate use of data.	4 Neither original nor relevant.

Late submissions

Late submissions of home assignments and dissertations when no valid or sufficient reason is provided will be subject to a deduction of marks as follows:

Extension for Home Assignments

- Submitted within 1 week – deduction of 20% of the mark
- Submitted within 3 weeks – deduction of 30% of the mark
- Submitted after 3 weeks – submission is refused

Extension for Dissertation

- Submitted within 2 weeks – deduction of 10% of the mark
- Submitted within 4 weeks – deduction of 20% of the mark
- Submitted within 6 months – deduction of 30% of the mark
- Submitted late without request – 0 marks are awarded

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the passing off as your own work material written by others. This is considered as a serious breach of conduct. Strict disciplinary action will be taken in all instances where plagiarism is noted. If in any doubt concerning what constitutes plagiarism or how to avoid it, we suggest you consult the guidance documents issued by the University of Malta, available [here](#).

Publication of results and revision of paper

Results of study-units are published on eSIMS. Students will receive an email through eSIMS, to indicate that results have been published.

Requests for revision of papers must be submitted online within one week from the publication of the component results. You will need to login on eSIMS and click on the 'View Results/Apply Revision of Paper/Accept F for AB' option. You are subsequently required to select the unit and click on the 'View Study-Unit Details' button. Paper applications are no longer accepted.

Graduation

On successful completion of the programme of studies, students will typically graduate in the following March. The following classification applied:

80-100%	Pass with Distinction
70-79%	Pass with Merit
50-69%	Pass

Your classification will be determined by the grades obtained in the individual modules, weighted by the respective module's ECTS credit value.



SECTION 4: COMMUNICATION

Key contacts

Any problems you have that are specific to any *module* should, in the first instance, be taken up with the lecturers concerned with the module. Pay attention to email etiquette. Use appropriate modes of address. Your lecturers are professional educators and should be respected as such.

For *administrative* matters, please refer to the department's administrator, Mr Keith Cauchi, by email at keith.cauchi@um.edu.mt or physically at Room 304, New Humanities Building Block B, FEMA. Among others, he is the contact for the registration for study units, administrative matters concerning e-sims records, and examination dates.

For academic issues related to the *MSc programme* you can contact the MSc programme coordinators, Dr Marie Briguglio at marie.briguglio@um.edu.mt or Dr Daniel Gravino at daniel.gravino@um.edu.mt.

From time to time information will be circulated to you via VLE (if pertinent to specific units), via email or via Facebook. Please like this page to stay in touch. The link is available [here](#).

University of Malta email

All formal correspondence will be sent to your University of Malta email account. You should check your University of Malta email account on a daily basis as you may otherwise miss out on important notices such as postponed lectures or a change in venue. The University of Malta email account should also be checked during recess periods.

eSIMS

You are expected to familiarise yourself with eSIMS. This is the Student Information Management System. You may view your academic record as well as your personal and course details through eSIMS. eSIMS is the forum through which you should register for study-units and annual enrolment. The publication of study-unit results is also carried out online through this system. Inquires relating to eSIMS should be submitted to support.esims@um.edu.mt.

Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)

You are also expected to familiarise yourself with the University's Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). The VLE is a web-based learning environment, through which lecturers can interact with students. It will be used to provide learning materials and notices for various study-units, in electronic format. More information is available [here](#).



SECTION 5: GETTING SUPPORT

As a student of the University of Malta, you have access to several academic support structures. You can access information about the various administrative sections at the University of Malta that cater for a number of aspects and are of service to students at <https://www.um.edu.mt/services/>.

The University also has a Health and Wellness Centre that offers services aimed at enhancing the wellness of students. It offers professional support, to help students take on the challenges and grasp the opportunities that may arise as a result of everyday life situations. The services offered are listed in the table below.

ACCESS Disability Support Unit https://www.um.edu.mt/services/administrativesupport/access/
Chaplaincy https://www.um.edu.mt/services/health-wellness/chaplaincy/
Counselling Services https://www.um.edu.mt/services/health-wellness/counselling/
Student Advisory https://www.um.edu.mt/services/health-wellness/sas/
Drug-related issues https://www.um.edu.mt/services/health-wellness/adviceondrug-relatedissues/
Mental Health Services https://www.um.edu.mt/services/health-wellness/mentalhealthservices/
Nutritional Advice https://www.um.edu.mt/services/health-wellness/nutritionaladvice/
Sexual Health Clinic https://www.um.edu.mt/services/health-wellness/sexualhealthclinic/
Tobacco Cessation Support https://www.um.edu.mt/services/health-wellness/tobaccocessationsupport/
Traditional Chinese Medicine https://www.um.edu.mt/services/health-wellness/traditionalchinesemedicine/
Student Solidarity Fund https://www.um.edu.mt/services/studentsolidarityfund/

More information can be accessed [here](#).



L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty of Economics,
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