

Global Learning Semesters

Course Syllabus

Course: Doing Business in Argentina and MERCOSUR

Department: Economics and Business

Host Institution: Universidad de Belgrano, Buenos Aires



Course Summary		
Course Code	Course Title	Recommended Credit Hours
BUS 399	Doing Business in Argentina and MERCOSUR	3
Subject	Contact Hours	Prerequisites
Economic and Business	42-45	none
Department	Level of Course	Language of Instruction
Economic and Business	Upper-Division	English

Course Description

The goal of this course is to introduce students to the Argentine and MERCOSUR business world. The course covers modern Argentine and Latin American economic history, the MERCOSUR and Argentine-Brazilian trade relations, the Argentine economy and the success of its many sectors, and prospects for its future.

Prerequisites (if applicable)

None

Instructors

Alejandro Marchionna Fare, Ind. Eng. UCA, MBA Harvard Business School

Ricardo Trepas, Ind. Eng UBA, MBA University of California Berkeley

Marcelo Dabós, Economist UCA, Ph.D. in Economics, University of Chicago

Carlos Steiger, Dr. in Economics, UNR, Ms Sc. Ag. Economics, The Ohio State University

Ramiro Tosi, Economist, MA in Economics, CEMA

Carlos Lerner, Ind. Eng. UBA, MA Economics, CEMA

Simón Altkorn Monti, Economist UBA, MBA IAE Univ. Austral

Course Outline

Topics covered in class:

The Argentine economy since the 1980s

- Oil shocks and Debt Crisis.
- The road to hyperinflation.
- The Washington Consensus policies in Argentina.
- The Convertibility Law and the Fixed exchange in the 1990s.
- The three major imbalances.
- The 2001 crisis.
- Argentine economic recovery since 2002.
- The oil and food sectors and Argentina.

- The inflationary pressures.
- Perspectives and forecast for the Argentine Economy

Mercosur Since Its Creation

- Brazil economic performance in recent times.
- The trade balance with Argentina.
- The appreciation of the real.
- Brazil growth and export policies.

Key Sectors in the Argentine Economy

- The agribusiness complex.
 - Argentine competitiveness in agribusiness.
 - Recent developments in the main value chains.
 - Foreign investments in the farming and agribusiness industries .
 - Government policies toward agribusiness exports.
- The domestic industries.
 - Recovery of the main industrial sectors after the devaluation in 2002.
 - World competitiveness of Argentine industrial sector.
 - The need of a high exchange rate.
 - The impact of industrial development in employment.
 - Attractive sector for foreign investment.
- The housing and construction sector.
 - Rate of growth in recent times.
 - Multiplier effect of the construction sector and jobs creation.
 - The value of land and properties in Argentina.
- Tourism in Argentina.
 - Reasons to explain the growth in tourism and the hotel industry.
 - The future of the sector.
- The financial and banking sector in Argentina.
 - Developments after the 2002 crisis.
 - The different role of foreign and domestic banks.
 - The monetary and capital markets.
 - The development of financial instruments for SME enterprises.
- Argentine trade balance.
 - Reserve accumulation.
 - Recent developments of exports, imports and capital flows,
- Perspectives for the Argentine economy.
 - Opportunities, threats and challenges.

Course Evaluation

Journal assignments	20%
Mid-term exam	40%
Final exam	40%