

EG5- Online data and economic research

Subject Information:

Code	ES5	Plan	2014	ECTS	5
Type of Subject		Year		Semester	first
Knowledge area:	EG5. Online data and economic research				
Department:					
Virtual Platform	Platform:	Studium.usal.es			
	Access URL:	Studium.usal.es			

Data about the instructor-teacher

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Knowledge area	Business and economic statistics; web data collection and surveys, economic analyses.		
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Remarks (previous requirements, coordination, other, if any)

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Objectives and competencies of the subject (basics, general, transversal, specifics)

Data and indicators available on web are steadily growing. General users as well as researchers are facing a mess of information which is dispersed over the web and is of different quality. They need to acquire knowledge of best way to find out the most interesting data and suitable for their research/decision making problem. Keys for correct data interpretation, advantages, limits and reliability are needed.

Objective of this course is to let to student become familiar in finding on line data useful for economic analysis, identifying quality and characteristic of the data (metadata databases) and understanding how they could be used in economic analysis. Challenges and problems for economic analysis due to the data revolution of the huge of data available on the web are the objective of the course.

Specific competencies on traditional and emerging data, indicators and sources for economic analysis. Transversal competencies to big data general issue.

Programme (Brief Description of modules) and expected learning outcomes

<p>The course will handle the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Data and indicators in economic analysis (traditional and emerging new potentialities from web massive data): - -primary and secondary data; individual and aggregate data; structured and unstructured data) - types of information (surveys, panels, censuses, administrative databases, integrated data) - data sources: official statistics, private businesses, web system generated (NSIs, World Bank, Ocde, research institute, private data; system data – social networks, emails, geo-location -..)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quality indicators of statistical data

- Metadata: where to find them, how to use them
- On line sources and big data
- National and international data and panel; data comparability
Examples of European and global data sources and surveys/panels
How to present economic data (graphical presentation and basic metadata)

Methodology

The course consists on lectures integrated with empirical research on web of the data presented in the course and some basic analyses to let student to learn the value of the data in economic studies and how to start with using them.
A list of data sets available on line and to be discussed during the course will be provided.

- Resources:

Bibliography and on line resources will be provided ahead the beginning of the course

Evaluation System:

General Considerations:
Evaluation Criteria:
Exam on the topics presented during the course.
Recommendation for second and following evaluations:

Employment Opportunities (optional)

The competencies provided from this course are crucial for new economists which surely will work in a new landscape of data available for economic analysis. This new landscape is allowing for renovated approaches in economic research and analysis for policy making and for decision making in the socio-economic context. Students of these course will become expert in selecting data through web and in finding out potentialities of the existing data. They can be employed in every body, institution or business interested in studying socio-economic behaviour (social relations, wellbeing indicators, production, marketing, mobility analyses,...) and in economic forecasting .