Educational Establishment "Belarusian State University of Economics"

APPROVED
Rector of the Educational
Establishment «Belarus State
Economic University"
_________________ A. V. Egorov
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Registration № УД 1846-21уч.

ECONOMIC THEORY

The curriculum of the establishment of higher education for the specialty:
1-25 01 03 «World economy»;
1-25 01 08 «Accounting, analysis and audit (by areas)»
(in English)

2023

The curriculum is based on the standard curriculum for the academic discipline «Economic theory», approved by the First Deputy Minister of Education of the Republic of Belarus dated 16.06.2022 No. ТД –E.908/ тип.

COMPILED BY:

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RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:

Department of Economic Theory of the Educational Establishment "Belarus State Economic University"
(Protocol No. 11 dated 12.05.2021).

Scientific and Methodological Council of the Educational Establishment "Belarus State Economic University"
(Protocol No. 5 dated 22.06.2021).

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Syllabus for the academic discipline "Economic Theory" has been developed for institutions of higher education of the Republic of Belarus in accordance with the requirements of educational standards of higher education.

The goal of the academic discipline "Economic Theory" is the development of students' economic thinking, the formation of their basic economic knowledge based on the study of the achievements of domestic and world economic thought.

Objectives of the academic discipline:

– to develop students' knowledge of the categorical apparatus of economic theory;

– develop an understanding of the fundamental problems of economic development;

– form an idea of the principles of functioning of various economic systems;

– develop knowledge of the basic principles of the functioning of business entities and product markets;

– to form an idea of the need, directions and most important forms of state regulation of the economy;

– introduce the features of the development of the economy of the Republic of Belarus at the present stage;

– to form an idea of the patterns of functioning of the world economy and current trends in its development;

– create a methodological basis for mastering the academic disciplines "Microeconomics" and "Macroeconomics", "International Economics";

– instill skills application of the acquired theoretical knowledge as a methodological basis for the study of applied economic disciplines;

–to form the social qualities necessary for conscious participation in the socio-political life of the country, to possess the qualities of citizenship and patriotism, to analyze the socio-political situation in the country and the world, to determine the socio-political significance of historical events.

As a result of studying the academic discipline, the student must

know:

– basic concepts and principles of the course "Economic Theory";

– mechanism of functioning and self-regulation of a market economy;

– market "failures" and directions of state regulation of the economy;

– motives of behavior of consumers and commodity producers in a market economy;

– economic logic of the functioning of the monetary and financial systems;

– features of economic processes in the Republic of Belarus;

– the basics of the functioning of the world economy and the formation of exchange rates;

be able to:

– analyze and systematize economic information;

– apply the acquired knowledge when making production decisions in future professional activities;

– competently express and justify your point of view when discussing economic problems;

– solve problems and tests that reinforce educational material;

own:

– basic theoretical knowledge for solving practical problems;

– skills of working with various sources of information to carry out economic calculations and carry out their own analytical work.

Requirements for professional competencies of a specialist.

Studying the academic discipline "Economic Theory" should ensure the formation of the following professional competencies in the student:

–BPK-5. Understand the motives of behavior of subjects of a market economy, the features of economic processes in the Republic of Belarus and other countries, analyze economic information, apply the acquired theoretical knowledge as a methodological basis for the study of applied economic disciplines.

Among the effective pedagogical methods and teaching technologies disciplines that promote the involvement of students in the search and management of knowledge, gaining experience in independently solving various problems, it should be highlighted:

- technology of problem-based modular learning;
- technologies of educational and research activities;
- communication technologies (discussion, press conference, brainstorming, educational debates and other active forms and methods);
- gaming technologies, in which students participate in business, role-playing, simulation games, etc.

To manage the educational process and organize control and evaluation activities, teachers are recommended to use rating systems for assessing the educational and research activities of students.

The place of "Economic Theory" in the system of training specialists with higher education is determined by the fact that this academic discipline is the methodological basis for further study of the disciplines "Microeconomics", "Macroeconomics", "International Economics", etc.

In turn, "Economic Theory" is closely related to "Higher Mathematics", since it actively uses the mathematical apparatus for studying economic processes: methods of limit, functional analysis and equilibrium analysis, graphical method, economic models.

In accordance with the curricula for specialties in the field of education the academic discipline "Economic Theory" is allocated 122 hours, of which 68 hours are classroom (lectures – 34 hours; seminars – 34 hours); correspondence courses for full and shortened courses – 14 (8 lectures and 6 practical).

The recommended form of ongoing monitoring is an exam.

CONTENT OF TRAINING MATERIAL

Topic 1. Economic theory: subject and method

Economics as a sphere of social activity. Economic activity.

Economic Sciences. General and particular economic sciences. Subject and functions of economic theory. Economic categories and economic laws. Sections of economic theory.

Methods of economic science: general and specific. Systematic approach to the study of economic processes. Limit, functional and equilibrium analysis.

Economic theory, forecasts and economic policy. Positive and normative economic theory.

Main scientific schools and modern directions of development of economic theory.

Topic 2. Needs and resources. The problem of choice in economics

Needs as a prerequisite for production. Classification and main characteristics of needs. The law of increasing needs. Economic interests and their classification.

Economic resources (factors) of production. Work. Land and non-renewable natural resources. Capital and its classification. Entrepreneurial ability. Limited resources.

Economic benefits: types, main characteristics. Interchangeability and complementarity of goods.

The problem of choice in economics. Fundamental questions of economic development of society: what, how and for whom to produce? Production capabilities of society and their boundaries. Transformation curve. Alternative (opportunity) costs. Law of increasing opportunity costs.

Production, reproduction and economic growth.

Topic 3. Economic systems

Economic system of society. Economic institutions.

The concept of property. Subjects and objects of property. Types and forms of ownership. Institutional theory of property rights. Property relations in the Republic of Belarus.

Classification criteria and types of economic systems.

Ways to coordinate economic life: traditions, market, team. Traditional economics. Market economy. Administrative command system. Mixed economy.

Transformational economics: main features and features.

Topic 4. Market economy and its models

Market: concept, conditions of occurrence. Market functions. Market economy and its main features: private property, free pricing, competition.

Classification of markets. Market infrastructure, its elements and functions.

Imperfections (fiasco) of the market and the need for government intervention in the economy.

Models of market economy. Liberal and social models.

Distinctive features of the Belarusian economic model. The idea of a social state and its implementation in the economic policy of the Republic of Belarus. National strategy for sustainable socio -economic development of the Republic of Belarus.

Topic 5. Demand, supply and market equilibrium

Demand. Law of demand. Demand function and its graphical interpretation. Non-price factors of demand. Individual and market demand.

Offer. Law of supply. The sentence function and its graphical interpretation. Non-price factors of supply.

Industry market equilibrium. Mechanism for establishing market equilibrium. Equilibrium price. Consequences of price deviation from the equilibrium level. Commodity deficit and commodity surplus. Changes in supply and demand and their impact on price.

Gain from exchange: consumer and producer surplus.

Topic 6. Elasticity of supply and demand

The concept of elasticity. Price elasticity of demand. Coefficients of price elasticity of demand. Point and arc price elasticities of demand. Factors of price elasticity of demand.

Cross elasticity of demand. Coefficients of cross elasticity of demand for complementary goods, substitute goods, and unrelated goods.

Income elasticity of demand. Income elasticity of demand coefficients for normal and inferior goods, luxury goods and essential goods.

Elasticity of supply. Supply elasticity coefficients. Factors of supply elasticity.

Practical significance of elasticity analysis. Price elasticity of demand and producer revenue. The effect of elasticity on consumer surplus and producer surplus. Elasticity of supply and demand and distribution of the tax burden.

Topic 7. Basics of behavior of subjects of a market economy

Economic subjects: household, firm (organization), state.

Household as an economic subject. The concept of a rational consumer. The concept of utility. Total and marginal utility. Law of Diminishing Marginal Utility. A cardinalist approach to utility evaluation. Weighted marginal utility. Consumer equilibrium and the utility maximization rule.

Organization (enterprise) as an economic entity. Classification of organizations. The concept of a rational producer.

Time frames for decision making: short-term and long-term periods. Constant and variable factors of production.

Production and technology. Production function, its characteristics.

Production choice of a firm in the short run. Production with one variable factor. Total, average and marginal product: concept, measurement, relationship. Law of Diminishing Marginal Productivity.

The production choice of a firm in the long run. Production with two variable factors. Isoquants. Isoquant map . Limit rate of technological substitution. Interchangeability of factors of production.

Concept and classification of costs. External (explicit) and internal (implicit) costs. Accounting and economic costs. Sunk costs.

Production costs in the short run. Fixed and variable costs. Total, average, marginal costs, their dynamics and relationships.

Long-run production costs. Economies of scale: positive, negative, constant. The problem of optimal enterprise size.

Isocosts . Isocost map . Producer equilibrium. Condition for minimizing costs. Minimizing costs for a given output volume. Minimizing costs with changing output volumes. The company's growth trajectory.

Income and profit of the company. Total, average, marginal income. Normal profit. Economic and accounting profit.

The state as an economic entity. Economic functions of the state. Administrative and economic methods of regulation.

Topic 8. Main macroeconomic indicators

National economy and its general characteristics.

System of National Accounts (SNA). Institutional units. Macroeconomic agents and economic sectors.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Principles of calculating GDP. Intermediate and final goods and services. Added value. Production method of calculating GDP. Calculation of GDP based on expenses and income. The problem of reliability of GDP calculations. Other indicators of the system of national accounts.

Nominal and real GDP. Price indices. GDP deflator. Deflation and inflation.

National wealth, its composition.

Dynamics of the main macroeconomic indicators of the Republic of Belarus.

Topic 9. Monetary system

Evolution of money. The essence of money and its functions.

Monetary system and its structure. Central bank and its functions. Commercial banks, their functions. Specialized credit and financial organizations. Principles of lending. Forms of credit.

Monetary system of the Republic of Belarus.

Topic 10. Financial system

The concept of the financial system, its structure and functions. Public, private and national finance.

The concept of the tax system and its elements. Taxation: essence, principles. Taxes and fees (duties). Types and functions of taxes.

State budget, local budgets, consolidated budget. Functions of the state budget. Expenditures and revenues of the state budget. The concept of budget deficit and budget surplus.

Financial system of the Republic of Belarus.

Topic 11. Macroeconomic instability

Macroeconomic instability and forms of its manifestation.

The cyclical nature of economic development and its causes. Economic (business) cycle and its phases. Features of modern economic cycles.

Employment and unemployment. Types of unemployment. Measuring the unemployment rate. Economic costs of unemployment. Okun's Law .

Inflation, its definition and measurement. Causes of inflation. Forms of inflation. Socio-economic consequences of inflation.

Inflation and unemployment in the Republic of Belarus.

Topic 12. World economy and current trends in its development

The world economy and the prerequisites for its formation. Structure of the world economy. Forms of international economic relations: trade in goods and services, capital movement, labor migration, monetary and financial relations, scientific and production cooperation. Current trends in the development of the world economy.

Currency market. Demand for currency. Currency supply. Equilibrium of the foreign exchange market. Exchange rate.

The place of the Republic of Belarus in the system of world economic relations.

Educational and methodological map of the discipline for full-time students of education

Section number, topic	Title of section, topic	Number of classroom hours					Number of USR hours	Knowledge control form
		Lectures	Practical lessons	Seminar classes	Laboratory exer-cises	Other		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Economic theory: subject and method	2		2		[2, 3, 10, 13]		
2.	Needs and resources . The problem of choice in economics	4		4		[2, 3, 5, 8, 12, 22]		Test
3.	Economic systems	2		2		[1, 3, 4, 8, 11, 20]		
4.	Market economy and its models	2		2		[2, 4, 8, 15, 19]		
5.	Demand, supply and market equilibrium	2		2		[3,,5, 6, 9, 12.17, 22]		
6.	Elasticity of supply and demand	2		2		[3, ,5, 9, 11, 17]		Test work on topics 4-5
7.	Fundamentals of behavior of subjects of a market economy	10		6		[2, 7, 9, 14, 15, 17]		Test
8.	Main macroeconomic indicators	2		4		[3, 5.6, 13, 22]		Test
9.	Monetary system	1		2		[3, 8, 9, 10]		
10.	Financial system.	1		2		[3, 4, 11, 13, 21]		
eleven.	Macroeconomic instability	4		4		[1, 2, 3, 8, 5,,13, 17, 20, 22]		Test
12.	World economy and modern trends in its development.	2		2		[2, 11, 16, 18]		
	TOTAL	34		34				Exam

INFORMATIONAL AND METHODOLOGICAL PART

Methodological recommendations for organizing independent work of students in the academic discipline "Economic Theory"

An important stage in mastering knowledge of an academic discipline is students' independent work. The recommended time budget for independent work is an average of 2-2.5 hours for a 2-hour classroom lesson.

The main directions of student's independent work are:

- initially a detailed introduction to the program of the academic discipline;
- familiarization with the list of recommended literature on the discipline as a whole and its sections, its availability in the library and other available sources, studying the necessary literature on the topic, selecting additional literature;
- studying and expanding the teacher's lecture material through special literature and consultations;
- preparation for seminar (practical) classes according to specially developed plans with the study of basic and additional literature;
- preparation for performing diagnostic forms of control (tests, colloquiums, tests, etc.);
- exam preparation.

List of recommended means for diagnosing the effectiveness of students' independent work: quizzes; reports at seminar classes; test papers; tests; abstracts.

PROTOCOL FOR APPROVING THE HEI CURRICULUM

Name of the training program disciplines, with which approval required	Title departments	Offers about changes in the curriculum content higher education institutions education in the academic discipline	The decision made by the department that developed the curriculum (with the date and time of its publication). protocol numbers)
Accounting Theory	Accounting, analysis and audit in trade, transport and agro-industrial complex	No comments or suggestions	

ADDITIONS AND CHANGES TO THE HEI CURRICULUM
on _____/_____ academic year

№ n/a	Additions and changes	Footing

The curriculum was reviewed and approved at the Department's meeting
_____________________________ (protocol no. _ _ _ _ of _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ 201_)
(name of the department)

Head of the Department

_____________________ _______________ __________________
(academic degree, academic title) (signature) (Full Name)

APPROVING IT
Dean of the Faculty

_____________________ _______________ __________________
(academic degree, academic title) (signature) (Full Name)