

COURSE OF STUDY *Economics and Business Administration*
ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025

ACADEMIC SUBJECT *Commodity Science*

General information	
Year of the course	II
Academic calendar (starting and ending date)	II semester (from 17/02/2025 to 30/05/2025)
Credits (CFU/ETCS):	8
SSD	SECS-P/13
Language	Italian
Mode of attendance	Compulsory

Professor/ Lecturer	
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Department and address	Ionian Department, Faculty of Economics, Lago Maggiore street corner with Ancona street
Virtual room	Microsoft Teams (code: yd2h4I0)
Office Hours (and modalities: e.g., by appointment, on line, etc.)	Wednesday and Friday from 11:00 to 13:00

Work schedule			
Hours			
Total	Lectures	Hands-on (laboratory, workshops, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
200	64		136
CFU/ETCS			
8	8		

Learning Objectives	<p>The aim of the course is to make the student aware of the centrality of goods, from a technical, technological, economic and environmental point of view in the global economy.</p> <p>The fundamental goods, object of international production and exchange, will be studied to make the student acquire the knowledge relating to their technical characteristics, their production processes (with the relative material and energy balances), economic and market peculiarities and their impact on the environment during the production and use phases.</p> <p>During the course, interactive teaching methods with multimedia teaching aids, group work and study visits and seminars will be privileged.</p>
Course prerequisites	No

Teaching strategies	Lectures, internal cycles of lessons, exercises, seminars, laboratory activities, study visits. Course present in the e-learning area of the Faculty website.
Expected learning outcomes in terms of	

Knowledge and understanding on:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The commodity course aims to provide students with basic notions relating to goods and their characterization from a technical, technological, economic and environmental point of view in the global economy.
Applying knowledge and understanding on:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The student, having acquired the basic concepts and terminology, will have in-depth knowledge of the main goods, raw materials and/or objects of the main production processes in the broad global economic scenario.
Soft skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making informed judgments and choices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The course aims at the student's understanding of the most current market dynamics related to commodities and industrial systems, the ability to evaluate the realization of a commodity or a production process and with a problem-solving approach. • Communicating knowledge and understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At the end of the course, the student will have acquired the basic knowledge and the technical language useful for dealing with structured and complex interviews on various types of commodity aspects, will be able to distinguish a commodity by its intrinsic characteristics, the value in use and the energy consumption for the corresponding production. • Capacities to continue learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The goal is to give the student an analytical technical ability aimed at the knowledge of fundamental goods, subject to international production and exchange, such as: energy, steel, basic inorganic products, fertilizers, petrochemical industry products, food and water.
Syllabus	
Content knowledge	<p>The topics covered during the course will be the following: The scenario of the events of the biosphere and the technosphere. The problem of energy sources: nature and characteristics of energy; unit of measure; fossil fuels: coal, oil and its derivatives, gaseous fuels, electricity, nuclear energy, and renewable energy sources. Energy uses and needs; Energy and environment. Environmental analysis and accounting. Goods and metals: the steel industry; iron and steel. The goods produced by the chemical industry: basic inorganic products and fertilizers, the petrochemical industry, renewable resources. The food problem. Cereals and their derivatives. The water problem. Notes on aspects of international trade in goods: Integrated Customs Tariff for Use and customs procedures and operations.</p>
Texts and readings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G. Nebbia, "Lezioni di merceologia", 1995, Laterza, Bari (pg. 3-164; 185-194; 203-279; 287-308; 371-386). • B. Notarnicola: "Appunti dalle lezioni", 2024-25.
Notes, additional materials	
Repository	E-learning platform of the Jonian Department
Assessment	
Assessment methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral interview.
Assessment criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The student will have a broad view of the properties, characteristics of use and trade of the different groups of goods. • Applying knowledge and understanding

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Having acquired the basic concepts and terminology, the student will have in-depth knowledge of the production processes of each commodity. • Autonomy of judgment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The student will be able to understand all the environmental issues related to the entire production cycle of goods transformation. • Communicating knowledge and understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The student will be able to distinguish a commodity by its intrinsic characteristics, the value in use and the energy consumption for the corresponding production. • Communication skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The student, at the end of the course, will have acquired the technical language useful for dealing with interviews on product-related aspects. • Capacities to continue learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The student will acquire adequate commodity knowledge with the aim of describing and knowing how to recognize the main commodity characteristics of a commodity.
Final exam and grading criteria	The final grade is awarded out of thirty. The exam is passed when the grade is greater than or equal to 18.
Further information	