



DECISIONS AND CHOICES	
Anno immatricolazione	2020/2021
Anno offerta	2020/2021
Normativa	DM270
SSD	SECS-S/06 (METODI MATEMATICI DELL'ECONOMIA E DELLE SCIENZE ATTUARIALI E FINANZIARIE)
Dipartimento	DIPARTIMENTO DI MATEMATICA 'FELICE CASORATI'
Corso di studio	MATEMATICA
Curriculum	PERCORSO COMUNE
Anno di corso	1°
Periodo didattico	Secondo Semestre (01/03/2021 - 11/06/2021)
Crediti	6
Ore	44 ore di attività frontale
Lingua insegnamento	English
Tipo esame	SCRITTO
Docente	MOLHO ELENA (titolare) - 9 CFU
Prerequisiti	The contents of the Mathematics basic course and some elementary models in Microeconomics together with some basic knowledge in elementary probability theory are considered as preliminaries.
Obiettivi formativi	The course will offer an organic overview of some tools used in economics and finance models to develop a rational choice theory. The methodological part devoted to the introduction of some fundamental mathematical tools will be completed by examples and applications in economics and finance. The aim of the course is to learn how some important mathematical tools are used in economics and finance. The focus will be on modelling simple situations by use of simple mathematical tools. Besides some optimization and linear algebra techniques, some general skills such as the formalization of a model and use of deductive reasoning will be acquired by the students.



## LINEAR MODELS WITH APPLICATIONS TO ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

Matrices and partitioned matrices: basic calculus rules. Linear functions and linear systems: a review. Quadratic forms. Eigenvalues and eigenvectors. Diagonalization of a quadratic form. Applications to models in economics and finance.

## OPTIMIZATION MODELS WITH APPLICATIONS TO ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

Functions of many variables: calculus rules. Optimization models without constraints. Implicit functions and comparative statics. Constrained optimization and Lagrange multipliers. Applications to models in economics and finance.

## DECISIONS UNDER RISK

Utility and preference representation; Decisions under risk; Von Neumann-Morgenstern model, Absolute and relative risk aversion. Hints on modern approaches to decision theory.



The course will consist in lectures and problem sessions. Due to the coronavirus emergency situation, some activities may be held online and it will be possible to follow the course at distance. The mathematical results, even if formally enunciated, will not be proved since the focus of the course is on the application of quantitative tools to economic modelling.



P. Simon and L. Blume, Mathematics for economists , New York ;  
London : Norton, 1994.  
D. Kreps, Notes on the theory of choice, Westview Press 1988





The exam consists of a written test. Whenever it is possible, the ability to use the quantitative tools introduced in the course to represent and solve a simple economic model will be tested.



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