

# Syllabus

## *Course Description*

<b>Course Title</b>	Regional Development and New Digital Economy
<b>Course Code</b>	31033
<b>Course Title Additional</b>	
<b>Scientific-Disciplinary Sector</b>	
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Degree Course</b>	Master in Tourism Management
<b>Other Degree Courses (Loaned)</b>	
<b>Lecturers</b>	<p>Prof. Federico Boffa,            FBoffa@unibz.it  <a href="https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/5799">https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/5799</a></p> <p>dr. Nicola Campigotto,            Nicola.Campigotto@unibz.it  <a href="https://www.unibz.it/en/home/research/competence-centre-economic-ecological-social-sustainability/team/person/50457">https://www.unibz.it/en/home/research/competence-centre-economic-ecological-social-sustainability/team/person/50457</a></p> <p>Dr. Eberhard Feess,            eberhard.feess@unibz.it  <a href="https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/27470">https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/27470</a></p>
<b>Teaching Assistant</b>	
<b>Semester</b>	All semesters
<b>Course Year/s</b>	1
<b>CP</b>	12
<b>Teaching Hours</b>	72 (36 M-1 + 36 M-2)
<b>Lab Hours</b>	12
<b>Individual Study Hours</b>	-
<b>Planned Office Hours</b>	36 (18 M-1 + 18 M-2)
<b>Contents Summary</b>	<p>M-1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This module provides a solid foundation in regional and environmental economics, covering key topics such as location</li> </ul>

	<p>decisions, infrastructure, regional disparities, and environmental policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students learn to apply formal economic models and analyze real-world location and environmental challenges.</li> <li>• The course combines theoretical modeling with practical case studies and policy applications.</li> <li>• The main goal is to develop analytical thinking skills and the ability to formulate evidence-based policy recommendations.</li> </ul> <p>M-2</p> <p>The course deals with incentives and strategies in platform markets, with an application to the tourism sector. The course will cover within side and cross side network effects, and their relations with platform pricing. The lecturer will discuss how platforms create value and how they monetize, the impact of competition on platforms pricing will also be analyzed.</p>
<b>Course Topics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Network Externalities;</li> <li>- Two sided markets;</li> <li>- Platforms;</li> <li>- How to finance platforms (e.g. fixed or variable fees, advertisement, sale of data)</li> <li>- Pricing mechanisms (auctions vs. fixed prices)</li> <li>- Regional possibilities for challenging monopolistic platforms</li> <li>- Applications to the tourism sector (e.g. Booking.com, Airbnb)</li> </ul>
<b>Keywords</b>	<p>Networks</p> <p>Platforms</p> <p>Monopolistic pricing</p> <p>Competitive pricing</p>
<b>Recommended Prerequisites</b>	
<b>Propaedeutic Courses</b>	
<b>Teaching Format</b>	Lectures, group presentations, discussion of case studies
<b>Mandatory Attendance</b>	-
<b>Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes</b>	<p>INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (ILO)</p> <p>ILO 1: KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING</p> <p>ILO 1.1 The student acquires the competence to apply knowledge and understanding about the role of tourism in the economic development of communities, regions and nations.</p>

	<p>ILO 2: ABILITY TO APPLY KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING</p> <p>ILO 2.1 The student acquires specific skills in spatial planning and economic models related to tourism development.</p> <p>ILO 2.2 The student acquires mastery in the planning of mobility and digitalisation systems within the regional economy.</p> <p>ILO 2.3 The student also acquires the ability to read and understand economic analyses.</p> <p>ILO 3. AUTONOMY OF JUDGEMENT</p> <p>ILO 3.1 Acquire the ability to select data and use appropriate information to describe a problem concerning the management of tourism businesses as well as tourism Associations and destinations</p> <p>ILO 3.2 Acquire the ability to relate models and empirical evidence in the study of tourism businesses, associations, consortia and tourist destinations</p> <p>ILO 4. COMMUNICATION SKILLS</p> <p>ILO 4.1 The Master's degree graduate will be able to communicate effectively in oral and written form the specialised content of the individual disciplines, using different registers depending on the recipients and the communicative and didactic purposes, and to evaluate the formative effects of his/her communication. Written and oral communication skills are particularly developed in the training activities carried out for the preparation of the Master's thesis, in the discussion of business cases and in interactive lectures involving group discussions and the comparison of individual analyses.</p> <p>ILO 5: LEARNING SKILLS</p> <p>ILO 5.1 To identify thematic connections and to establish relationships between different cases and contexts of analysis</p> <p>ILO 5.2 To frame a new problem systematically and generate appropriate taxonomies.</p> <p>ILO 5.3 To develop general models from the phenomena studied.</p>
<p><b>Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes (additional info.)</b></p>	
<p><b>Assessment</b></p>	<p>For attending students, in each module, in-class presentations (up</p>

	<p>to 30% of the grade) (ILO 4, ILO 5) and written exam (at least 70%) (ILO1 ILO 2, ILO3, ILO 5). If the grade of the presentation is lower than the grade of the written exam, the full grade will be based on the written exam.</p> <p>For non attending students, the full grade will be based on the written exam. Written exam will consist of open questions, cases and exercises. All ILOs are assessed (ILO 1-5)</p>
<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<p>Exam: Ability to understand the material and apply the knowledge to cases.</p> <p>Presentation: Clarity and ability to understand the papers and the topics</p>
<b>Required Readings</b>	<p><b>Paul Belleflamme &amp; Martin Peitz (2021).</b> <i>The Economics of Platforms: Concepts and Strategy</i>, Cambridge University Press.</p>
<b>Supplementary Readings</b>	
<b>Further Information</b>	
<b>Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</b>	Decent work and economic growth

## *Course Module*

<b>Course Constituent Title</b>	M-1 - Regional Economics and Development
<b>Course Code</b>	31033A
<b>Scientific-Disciplinary Sector</b>	ECON-01/A
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Lecturers</b>	<p>dr. Nicola Campigotto,            Nicola.Campigotto@unibz.it  <a href="https://www.unibz.it/en/home/research/competence-centre-economic-ecological-social-sustainability/team/person/50457">https://www.unibz.it/en/home/research/competence-centre-economic-ecological-social-sustainability/team/person/50457</a></p>
<b>Teaching Assistant</b>	
<b>Semester</b>	First semester
<b>CP</b>	6
<b>Responsible Lecturer</b>	
<b>Teaching Hours</b>	36
<b>Lab Hours</b>	12
<b>Individual Study Hours</b>	-

<b>Planned Office Hours</b>	18
<b>Contents Summary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This module provides a solid foundation in regional and environmental economics, covering key topics such as location decisions, infrastructure, regional disparities, and environmental policy.</li> <li>• Students learn to apply formal economic models and analyze real-world location and environmental challenges.</li> <li>• The course combines theoretical modeling with practical case studies and policy applications.</li> <li>• The main goal is to develop analytical thinking skills and the ability to formulate evidence-based policy recommendations.</li> </ul>
<b>Course Topics</b>	<p>This course provides an applied introduction to modern regional economics. It focuses on the determinants of the attractiveness of a territory and will be divided into two parts. An initial part will deal with classical regional economics, while a second part will deal with environmental economics. The first part will introduce students to the determinants of firms' and people's location decisions as well as on the principles of urban economics. It will look at the role of infrastructures and at place-based policies. The second part will provide for core concepts of environmental economics with special emphasis on policy. To this purpose, the course will start with the economic theory of environmental policy. Based on the theory of externalities, it will analyze instruments for environmental policy from an economic point-of-view. It will then introduce topics of behavioral environmental economics.</p> <p>The course is aimed at understanding how formal models can be used to analyze real-world situations. Theoretical analyses are complemented with empirical evidence, case studies, and discussions of implications for environmental policies.</p>
<b>Teaching Format</b>	Interactive lectures, case-based discussions, and hands-on exercises.
<b>Required Readings</b>	<p>Capello, R. (2015), Regional Economics, Routledge</p> <p>Sterner, T. and Coria, J. (2013), Policy instruments for environmental and natural resource management, Routledge</p>

	<p>Perman, R. (2003), Natural resource and environmental economics, Pearson Education</p> <p>OECD (2022), The Contribution of Migration to Regional Development, OECD Regional Development Studies</p>
<b>Supplementary Readings</b>	

## *Course Module*

<b>Course Constituent Title</b>	M-2 - Digital Economics
<b>Course Code</b>	31033B
<b>Scientific-Disciplinary Sector</b>	ECON-04/A
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Lecturers</b>	<p>Prof. Federico Boffa, FBoffa@unibz.it <a href="https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/5799">https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/5799</a></p> <p>Dr. Eberhard Feess, eberhard.feess@unibz.it <a href="https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/27470">https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/27470</a></p>
<b>Teaching Assistant</b>	
<b>Semester</b>	Second semester
<b>CP</b>	6
<b>Responsible Lecturer</b>	
<b>Teaching Hours</b>	36 (12h Prof. Federico Boffa + 24h Prof. Eberhard Feess)
<b>Lab Hours</b>	-
<b>Individual Study Hours</b>	-
<b>Planned Office Hours</b>	18 (6h Prof. Federico Boffa + 24h Prof. Eberhard Feess)
<b>Contents Summary</b>	<p>The course deals with incentives and strategies in platform markets, with an application to the tourism sector. The course will cover within side and cross side network effects, and their relations with platform pricing. The lecturer will discuss how platforms create value and how they monetize, the impact of competition on platforms pricing will also be analyzed.</p>

Course Topics	
Teaching Format	Lectures + group work + case studies
Required Readings	<b>Belleflamme, P., &amp; Peitz, M. (2021).</b> <i>The economics of platforms: Concepts and strategy.</i> Cambridge University Press.
Supplementary Readings	Comino, S., & Manenti, F. M. (2014). <i>Industrial organisation of high-technology markets: The Internet and information technologies.</i> Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing. ISBN 978-1-78195-198-9.