

Course Title:	<b>Economics for Social Impact</b>
Course Code:	<b>ECON522</b>
Descriptor Start Date:	<b>01/01/2026</b>
Descriptor End Date:	<b>22/02/2026</b>
POINTS:	<b>15.00</b>
LEVEL:	<b>5</b>
PREREQUISITE/S:	<b>None</b>
COREQUISITE/S:	<b>None</b>
RESTRICTION/S:	<b>ECON520</b>

## LEARNING HOURS

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Hours may include lectures, tutorials, online forums, laboratories. Refer to your timetable and course information in Canvas for detailed information.

**Total learning hours: 150**

## PRESCRIPTOR

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Thinking like an economist helps us to identify the root causes of society's most pressing challenges—like rising inequality, housing affordability, and environmental damage. Economic analysis provides tools to understand complex systems and the choices individuals, businesses, and governments make—choices that often shape these issues. Exploring the strengths and limitations of markets, policy, and human behaviour reveals the possibilities and constraints for addressing social problems. Making a positive impact starts with understanding the problem.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

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1. Apply the economic frameworks of "thinking like an economist" to social welfare
2. Use the economic concept of market equilibrium to assess outcomes
3. Apply the tools of welfare analysis to markets and government
4. Use game theory to analyse decision making procedures
5. Demonstrate an understanding of issues around economic growth and inequality

**Disclaimer: Course descriptors may be amended between teaching periods/semesters**

## CONTENT

Equilibrium in markets.  
Market Failure.  
Government Failure.  
Game theory and social dilemmas.  
Economic Growth  
Inequality.

## LEARNING & TEACHING STRATEGIES

An appropriate range of strategies that may include lectures, workshops and online learning.

## ASSESSMENT PLAN

Assessment Event	Weighting %	Learning Outcomes
Lab Report	20.00	1-5
Problem Sets	30.00	1-5
Final Exam	50.00	1-5

### Grade Map

#### MAP1

A+ A A- Pass with Distinction  
B+ B B- Pass with Merit  
C+ C C- Pass  
D Fail

### Overall requirement/s to pass the course:

## LEARNING RESOURCES

Details of all learning resources (including journals, databases, websites etc) are available on Canvas. Required Text(s): If there is a required text, details are available by searching the University Bookshop's website: [www.ubs.co.nz](http://www.ubs.co.nz)

**For further information, contact:** Te Ara Pakihi, Te Ohanga Me Te Ture - Faculty of Business, Economics and Law

**Principal Programme:** AK3693, Bachelor of Business

**Related Programme/s:** AK1006 DipBus, AK1007 CertBusSt, AK1315 BBus/BCS, AK3001 BBus/BSc, AK3002 BA/Bus, AK3003 BBus/BCIS, AK3004 BBus/BIHM, AK3726 BBus/BHSc, AK3709 GradDipBus, AK3753 GradCertBus

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