

**EC423 Ireland in the Global Economy
Semester 1, 2014-15**

National University of Ireland, Galway

Lecturers

Prof. Alan Ahearne alan.ahearne@nuigalway.ie Office: Room 236 St. Anthony's Office hours: Tuesday, 10-11am; Wednesday 4-5pm; or by appointment Office phone: (091) 494231	Dr. John McDonagh mcdonaj@tcd.ie Office: Room 233 St. Anthony's Office hours: Monday 12.30-1.30pm Office phone: (091) 493053
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Lectures

Mondays at 3.00pm (O'Flaherty) and Wednesdays at 5.00pm (Kirwan)

Course overview

The topics to be covered -- and the main associated required readings -- are given below. There is no set textbook: Reading material will be indicated on a topic by topic basis. Mankiw and Taylor's Economics provides a good introduction. Lectures, readings or links to the readings for each topic can be found on Blackboard. Additional readings may be added to the list during the semester.

Irish Economy

1. Overview of the Irish economy

ESRI, Irish Economy
https://www.esri.ie/irish_economy/

2. Ireland's economic "catch-up" during the 1990s

Alan Ahearne, Finn Kydland and Mark Wynne "Ireland's Great Depression",
Economic and Social Review, Vol. 37, No. 2, Summer/Autumn 2006, (pages 1-8 and 215-220)
<http://www.tara.tcd.ie/handle/2262/59867>

Honohan, Patrick, Walsh, Brendan M. "Catching up with the Leaders: The Irish Hare,"
Brookings Papers on Economic Activity, 2002, (pages 1-8 and Fig. 5 & 8)
<http://ideas.repec.org/a/bin/bpeajo/v33y2002i2002-1p1-78.html>

Philip R. Lane and Frances Ruane, "Globalisation and the Irish Economy,"
Institute for International Integration Studies. IIS Occasional Paper,
No.01, 2006, (pages 1-6)

<http://www.tcd.ie/iis/documents/archive/seminar%20papers/IISGlobalisationIrishEconomy.pdf>

3. Economic developments and policy during the “Celtic Tiger”

- Global and European setting
- Ireland’s banking and property bubble

Klaus Regling and Max Watson: “A Preliminary Report on the Sources of Ireland’s Banking Crisis” 2010

http://www.bankinginquiry.gov.ie/Preliminary_Reports.aspx

4. Ireland’s economic crisis

- Crisis in the public finances
- Banking sector crisis

5. Fiscal policy in Ireland and Budget 2015

6. Recovery and prospects for the Irish economy

- Recent developments
- Outlook

Global Economy

This part of the course will explore the origins and nature of the Eurozone crisis, and the wider global economic crisis. It will also explore the associated policy responses. This course will allow students to place the Irish financial crisis of 2007/08 and the aftermath in a comparative international context. This part of the course complements the EC423 lectures that focus on the Irish economy.

- 1. Introduction: Understanding the global economy.**
- 2. The Eurozone crisis.**
- 3. The US subprime crisis; experience of other countries including the UK and Iceland.**
- 4. The policy responses to the crisis.**
- 5. Selected topics in the global economy.**

Learning objectives

The aim of this course is to increase students’ understanding of recent developments and prospects for the Irish economy, the euro area, and the wider global economy and the implications of these developments for businesses and governments.

Assessment

There will be three on-line assignments during the semester, each worth 5% of the overall course grade. The assignments will consist of MCQs will be distributed in Weeks 4, 7, and 10. The assignments are compulsory (if you fail to submit them, you get zero).

An end-of-semester final exam will account for the remaining 85% of the course grade. The final exam will consist of a mix of short and long questions.

EC423 Ireland in the Global Economy, Semester 1, 2014-15.
(The Global Economy aspect)

Dr John McDonagh
Department of Economics
Office: Room 233 St. Anthony's
Email: mcdonaj3@tcd.ie

Lectures

My lectures are on Mondays at 3.00pm (O'Flaherty), with the exception of week 1, and will focus on the global economy aspect of EC423. Lecture notes will be posted on Blackboard before the lecture each week.

Course objective and learning outcomes -*The Global Economy* part

This part of the course will explore the origins and nature of the Eurozone crisis, and the wider global economic crisis. It will also explore the associated policy responses. This course will allow students to place the Irish financial crisis of 2007/08 and the aftermath in a comparative international context. This part of the course complements the EC423 lectures that focus on the Irish economy.

Topics

1. Introduction: Understanding the global economy.
2. The Eurozone crisis.
3. The US subprime crisis; experience of other countries including the UK and Iceland
4. The policy responses to the crisis.
5. Selected topics in the global economy.

Reading list

There is no one textbook for the course. Mankiw and Taylor's *Economics* provides a basic introduction to topics 2, 3 and 5. Readings for each topic will be given each week in the lecture and an updated list kept on Blackboard.

Office hour

My office hour is Monday 12.30 to 1.30 in Room 233, St. Anthony's building. My email is mcdonaj3@tcd.ie.

Assessment. As set out in the main course outline. I will also put a series of review questions at the end of each topic on Blackboard.