

Finance, banking and insurance

1st degree, Bachelor's degree

Topics of questions for the State examinations

1. Public sector and public finance. Reasons for the existence of the public sector in relation to the functions of public finance. Public choice theory and its relevance in decision making on allocation and redistribution of public resources .
2. The economic nature of public revenues with emphasis on tax revenues. The costs of taxation. Tax incidence and tax shifting in a competitive market at partial equilibrium.
3. The economic substance and efficiency of public expenditure. Public goods and externalities. Valuation of costs and benefits of public projects.
4. The relationship between public revenues and public expenditures at different levels of government. The nature, causes and methods of financing fiscal imbalances. The economic substance of the financial categories of government budget deficit, government debt and public debt.
5. Financing of a business entity. External and internal sources of financing. Self-financing of the enterprise.
6. Current assets and their cycle. Determination of the total working capital requirement. Management of corporate inventories, accounts receivable, working capital. Options for financing current assets.
7. Investment decision-making of a business entity. Evaluation of the economic efficiency of investments. Risks and uncertainties, options in investment decision-making. Impact of financing decisions on the efficiency of an investment project.
8. Small and medium-sized enterprises in the business environment. Specific features of SME financing. Financial support for SMEs.
9. Share tax as a public revenue of cities, municipalities and regions. Different types of income of an individual and the related forms of claiming costs. Items reducing the tax base and tax liability for individuals. Proportionality and progressivity of personal tax rates.
10. Indirect taxes as a public revenue of the state budget. Degree of harmonisation of indirect taxes. VAT registration conditions and the process of trade between VAT payers and non-payers within the Union and third countries. Possibilities of applying a reduced tax rate for indirect taxes.
11. Capital of a commercial bank, its position in the bank's balance sheet, meaning, functions and quantitative definition.
12. Liquidity and solvency of a commercial bank in relation to the bank's business activity and current developments in the banking market.
13. The importance of risk management for individuals, entrepreneurs and society. Process and phases of risk management. Methods and techniques of risk management and their use in different situations of individuals and legal entities.
14. Insurability of individual types of risks and their classification. Sources of personal and business risks. The importance and role of insurance in the risk management process. Life and non-life insurance products. Characteristics and structure of an insurance contract. Legal requirements and principles of insurance contracts.

15. Entities of the insurance market. Interaction of entities in the insurance market. Roles of entities in risk management. Processes and activities taking place in insurance companies and their roles. Valuation and underwriting of risks. Production. Administration of insurance contracts. Claims settlement. Formation and investment of technical provisions. Other activities in the insurance business.
16. Neoclassical vs. behavioral economics, benefits of experiments for better understanding individual decisions and biases, game theory predictions based on Homo economicus vs. behavioral findings from experiments focusing on strategic interactions.
17. Basic assumptions of the classical linear regression model, econometric model specification, artificial variables and interactions using artificial variables.

State Examination Process

Each section includes theoretical background, analytical evaluations and methodology, comprehensive evaluation of the problem and proposals for solutions. The student should be able to make use of the knowledge acquired in the field of finance - specifically business and public finance, taxation, banking, insurance, as well as the possibilities of using quantitative and experimental methods in each area.

Students will draw a question that will be constructed from the published headings. The emphasis of the question and answer will be on cross-curricular links between the issues covered in the question.

Students will be assigned to a committee for a specific day and time and will attend the state exam as scheduled. They will have time after the thesis defense to prepare a response to the issues they have pulled.