

Making sense of booms, busts and economic cycles

Are booms and busts inevitable? Why does no-one see them coming? This module will ensure you understand economic growth, business cycles, booms and busts.

The module will focus on:

- how we measure economic growth
- what drives growth - short and long term
- business cycles
- shocks
- the role of government in smoothing cycles and absorbing shocks

At the end of this module you will:

- understand indicators of growth – what they capture and what they don't
- understand the role of savings, investment and asset prices in cycles
- be able to assess the impacts of growth fluctuations on unemployment
- understand the role of the financial sector
- understand competition, natural monopolies and economic structure

You will understand and be able to use frequently used terms:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| • equilibrium | • secular stagnation | • 'Minsky' moments |
| • recession, depression | • hysteresis | • cyclical adjustment |
| • endogenous growth | • productivity | • stabilisation policy |
| • creative destruction | • output gap | • potential growth |

This module gets to the heart of some of the biggest debates in economics and policy making and is highly relevant to discussions today. The module will draw on academic and other research with a reading list made available - but no prior knowledge necessary. Booms, busts and economic growth links well with the modules on making sense of money and central banks, making sense of government and making sense of sustainable growth.

Contact: info@economicsense.co.uk + 44 (0) 7910 384 755