



UNIVERSIDAD
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UCEMA

Understanding Argentina's Transformations Under Milei



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UCEMA Short Program

Understanding Argentina's Transformations Under Milei: *Economic and Political Recovery After Decades of Statism*

After defeating the kirchnerist-peronist alliance in the midterm elections by a margin of 9 points in the Chamber of Deputies and more than 13 points in the Senate, Milei has chainsawed his way into the second part of his term, where he will strive to both consolidate his **deregulatory, liberalizing, and free-trade measures** and advance towards deeper, structural reforms in the **labor, social security and pensions, and taxation systems**.

Historically, Keynesian and paternalist projects implemented by successive Argentine governments have resulted in economically disastrous but politically profitable consequences. Meanwhile, occasional right-of-center governments that got elected were not very aggressive and soon became quite unpopular. The success of the Milei experiment so far raises a number of questions: What does Milei's success teach us about **getting past collectivist altruism and embracing rationally-selfish individualism**? Can an **Austrian economist** and his measures be politically popular, obtain the required votes, and sustain reforms? Could Argentina be on its way to become a **voluntary society**, and if so, what prospects of **spreading to other nations** does *Mileism* offer?

Located at the financial, political, and cultural center of vibrant Buenos Aires City, UCEMA is unique in its **traditionally liberty-centered profile and proximity to key government institutions** like the "Casa Rosada", the Ministry of Economy, and the Central Bank, where vital decisions shaping the political and economic agenda are being made every day. Over the course of an **intensive week of in-person activities**, the program will address—from a critical, empirical, and plural perspective—the key issues shaping the current political scenario: the reform agenda being implemented, the reconfiguration of the political map, the challenges of emerging leaderships, new international alignments, and last but not least, what the escape from Argentina's monetary conundrum might look like -including the possibility of dollarization.

Taught by a **first-rate faculty** and enriched by the **participation of experts, academics, and representatives from both the public and private sectors**, this intensive program is presented as a formative tool of excellence to interpret the present and reflect on the current situation and future horizons of a country in transformation.



Overview

Date	March 16th - 20th, 2026
Format	On-site
Venue	UCEMA, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Language	English
Price	\$675

Target Profile



Participants of all ages interested in the Argentine landscape and Milei's government reforms.



Schedule

Time	Activities
Monday	
Module 1: Economic Policy: Diagnosis, Implementation, and Initial Results	
09:00 - 10:00	The Inheritance Dr. Alejandro Rodríguez
10:00 - 11:00	The Measures Prof. Iván Carrino
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee Break
Module 2: The Argentine Political Map: Parties, Elites, and Coalitions in Dispute	
11:30 - 12:30	Before Milei Dr. Constanza Mazzina
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00 - 15:00	Visit to the Argentine National Congress
15:00 - 16:00	After Milei Congresswoman Daiana Fernández Molero
18:30 - 20:30	Argentinian <i>Asado</i> Meet & Greet
Tuesday	
Module 1: Supply-Side Reforms	
08:00 - 09:00	The Privatization Agenda Director Matías Micheloni
09:00 - 10:00	The Deregulatory Agenda Secretary Alejandro Cacace
10:00 - 11:00	Attacking the Budget and the Protectionist-Corporatist Model Prof. Agustín Etchebarne
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 - 12:30	Lessons from the Chilean Free-Market Reform Project Prof. Álvaro Iriarte
Module 2: Transformations in Foreign Policy and Defense	
12:30 - 13:30	The Turn Towards the West Minister Diana Mondino
13:30 - 14:30	Lunch Break
14:30 - 15:30	The End of the Long Neglect Secretary Juan Battaleme
16:00 - 17:00	Visit to the Argentine Defense Ministry
Wednesday	
Module 1: The Intellectual Roots of the Libertarian Narrative: From Hayek to Rothbard	
09:00 - 10:00	The Political Influences Prof. Marcos Falcone
10:00 - 11:00	The Economic Influences Dr. Iván Cachanosky
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee Break
Module 2: The Political Praxis of a Libertarian President: From Buenos Aires to Davos	
11:30 - 12:30	Milei's International Impact Prof. Daniel J. Mitchell
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00 - 15:00	Milei's Libertarian Leadership Dr. Walter E. Block
15:30 - 16:30	Visit to the Argentine Council for International Relations (CARI)

Schedule

Time	Activities
Thursday	
Module 1: The Opening of an Economy	
09:00 - 10:00	Trade Liberalization and Interest Groups: An Analysis of Economic Reform Through the Lens of Public Choice Theory Dr. Jorge Streb
10:00 - 11:00	Trade and Investment Opportunities in Argentina Argentine Agency for the Promotion of Investment and International Trade
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 - 12:30	Milei and the MERCOSUR-EU Agreement Dr. Hans-Dieter Holtzmann
12:30 - 13:30	The Opportunities in the East Dr. Gastón Fornes and Prof. Joshua Lim
13:30 - 15:00	Lunch Break
15:00 - 17:00	Visit to the Central Bank of the Argentine Republic (BCRA)
Friday	
Final Module	
09:00 - 10:00	The Argentine Monetary Drama: Structural Causes and Exit Options Dr. Jorge Ávila
10:00 - 10:30	Coffee Break
10:30 - 11:30	Meeting with Young Political Leaders Senator Juan Cruz Godoy & Congressman Gino Visconti
12:00 - 14:00	Final Remarks & Closing Cocktail John Fund

***Course schedule and speakers may be subject to modification**

PROGRAM SPEAKERS



Alejandro Rodríguez



Iván Carrino



Constanza Mazzina



Daiana Fernández Molero



Matías Micheloni



Alejandro Cacace



Agustín Etchebarne



Álvaro Iriarte



Diana Mondino



Juan Battaleme



Marcos Falcone



Iván Cachanosky



Dan Mitchell



Walter Block



Jorge Streb



Hans Holtzmann



Gastón Fornes



Joshua Lim



Jorge Ávila



Gino Visconti



Juan Cruz Godoy



John Fund

Visits and Meetings

Visit to the Argentine National Congress

Monday | 14:00 – 15:00

This visit offers an on-site immersion into Argentina's National Congress at the Palacio del Congreso. Participants will tour the building and receive a clear overview of how Congress works in practice today, with examples connected to the program's themes. The session will also include space for discussion and questions on how legislation is negotiated and advanced in the current political context.

Visit to the Argentine Defense Ministry

Tuesday | 16:00 – 17:00

At Argentina's Ministry of Defense, participants will tour the premises and take part in a closed-door conversation with public officials and members of the team. The session will provide a practical look at the ministry's current agenda and how it operates in the present context, with dedicated time for Q&A and open discussion aligned with the program's themes.

Visit to the Argentine Council for International Relations (CARI)

Wednesday | 15:30 – 16:30

At CARI, participants will have the opportunity to engage directly with one of Argentina's most influential foreign policy forums. The activity includes an on-site introduction to the institution's premises and role in Argentina's international relations ecosystem, followed by a substantive discussion on the country's current foreign policy stances and strategic positioning in the global arena.

Visit to the Central Bank of the Argentine Republic (BCRA)

Thursday | 15:00 – 17:00

At the BCRA's premises, participants will have the opportunity to learn about the history of and interact with officials from the central monetary policy institution. The activity includes a museum visit, followed by a detailed discussion on the country's current monetary and macroeconomic challenges.

Meeting with Young Political Leaders

Friday | 10:30 - 11:30

At UCEMA, this session provides a high-level view of contemporary Argentine governance, policy implementation, and political context, focusing on the institutional processes. Opportunities for Q&A and direct, confidential dialogue with personalities involved in the Milei phenomenon will be available for students to seize the opportunity to consult about the contents learned during the week with those who have been involved in carrying forward the ideas and reforms under study at the national level.

Modules

Economic Policy: Diagnosis, Implementation, and Initial Results

Monday | 09:00 – 11:30

This module offers an overview of the economic strategy implemented during the administration's first two years, with a special focus on the fiscal front and the program's core macroeconomic components. It reviews the initial diagnosis—marked by a high primary deficit, runaway public spending, and a heavy subsidy burden—and the early decisions aimed at a shock adjustment built on the “zero-deficit” premise.

The session examines the tools used to cut spending, rationalize transfers, and reset the state–market relationship, as well as the results observed after two years in office: progress toward a primary surplus, trends in economic activity, disinflation, and the challenges of consolidating reforms. The analysis will also clarify the political, institutional, and social dilemmas the plan faces during implementation.

The Argentine Political Map: Parties, Elites, and Coalitions in Dispute

Monday | 11:30 – 16:00

This module explores the reconfiguration of Argentina's political system following the rise of new leadership, analyzing how traditional forms of representation, coalition structures, and the relationship between elites and civil society have been challenged.

From a comparative and up-to-date perspective, the session will examine the elements shaping the new political cycle: the institutional weakness of coalitions, legislative dynamics, cooperation and veto strategies, and tensions tied to ideological, identity, and territorial redefinitions. Finally, it will raise questions about the future conditions of governance in a context of high political volatility and accelerated cultural transformation.

Supply-Side Reforms

Tuesday | 8:00 – 12:30

This module examines the evolution of Argentina's economic policy orientation toward supply-side reforms under the new administration.

It will analyze the guiding principles behind the push for deregulation, the reconfiguration of state-market relations through privatization initiatives, and the design of incentives aimed at attracting foreign investment.

Particular attention will be given to the government's discourse of “competitiveness” and “efficiency,” the institutional and legal mechanisms employed to implement reforms, and the political strategy put in place to enable liberalization projects despite Milei's political weakness

Transformations in Foreign Policy and Defense

Tuesday | 12:30 – 17:00

This module analyzes the main guidelines of Argentina's foreign policy during the first two years of the current administration, with particular attention to shifts in strategic orientation, new international alignments, and continuities with historical trends. The discussion will examine the discursive emphasis on Atlanticism and the priority placed on partnerships with the United States and Israel, as well as the redefinition of relations with key actors such as China, Brazil, and Mercosur.

Additionally, the session will delve into the evolution of Argentina's defense and security policies since the beginning of the new administration, considering both discursive shifts and institutional, budgetary, and strategic decisions. Internal challenges related to organized crime, border control, and the role of the Armed Forces in supporting domestic security, within the framework of a civilian-led institutional structure will be addressed. The module proposes a critical and contextualized perspective, reflecting on inherited institutional traditions, budgetary constraints, and reform opportunities in a transforming regional and international environment.

The Intellectual Sources of the Libertarian Narrative: From Hayek to Rothbard

Wednesday | 9:00 – 11:00

This module offers a philosophical reading of the ideas that inform the current government's libertarian narrative, drawing on the thought of Friedrich Hayek, Ludwig von Mises, and Murray Rothbard. Core concepts will be addressed, such as spontaneous order, human action, the impossibility of centralized knowledge, and individual liberty as the legal and moral foundation of social order.

These ideas will be situated within contemporary debates on the economy, law, and political legitimacy, with special attention to their impact on the current reform agenda. The module invites reflection on how these notions shape a view of the state, the individual, and the market that decisively influences public discourse and government decision-making.

The Political *Praxis* of a Libertarian President: From Buenos Aires to Davos

Wednesday | 11:30 – 15:00

The session will explore the disruptive style of libertarian leadership, both in Argentina and abroad. Unique features like discursive confrontation, direct appeals to the public, and a break from traditional codes of political representation, as well as foundational myths, metaphors of combat, and the dramatization of antagonism will be analyzed.

The Opening of an Economy

Thursday | 09:00 – 13:30

This module analyzes the main measures implemented by the Milei administration to increase the openness of Argentina's economy to international trade and investment, with particular attention to latest news like the MERCOSUR-EU agreement, labor reform, and industrial sector opposition. The discussion will examine the importance of the RIGI scheme for investments, the political background of the projects passed in Congress, and the discursive emphasis by the President the cultural battle for free markets and against interest groups.

The Argentine Monetary Drama: Structural Causes and Exit Options

Friday | 9:00 - 10:00

This module addresses Argentina's monetary problem from both a structural and historical perspective, focusing on the deep causes of chronic inflation, peso instability, and the persistent loss of confidence in the national currency. It will analyze the institutional and fiscal factors that have prevented the consolidation of a stable monetary regime, as well as the deficit financing mechanisms that have eroded money demand over time.

Particular emphasis will be placed on critically evaluating the monetary policy alternatives currently under debate—including dollarization, currency competition, and various nominal anchor mechanisms—while also exploring the political and institutional conditions required for a sustainable exit from the inflationary cycle. The class will provide a rigorous and comparative theoretical framework to reflect on the future of Argentina's monetary regime.

About the University

MEET UCEMA

Reasons to choose us

PRACTICAL AND COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH

Academic content combined with real-world case studies, collaborative projects, and interactive experiences.



STRATEGIC LOCATION

Urban campus located in the heart of Buenos Aires, with easy access to public transportation, cultural life, and the historic city center.



NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

Connect with students, faculty, and entrepreneurs from the local ecosystem.



ACCESS TO EXPERTS

Meetings with key figures from Argentina's entrepreneurial ecosystem.



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Internationally Recognised professors with extensive experience in environmental economics and sustainability.

Life in the city

BUENOS AIRES

Studying in Buenos Aires is much more than an academic experience: it's the opportunity to discover one of the most vibrant and welcoming cities in Latin America.

Buenos Aires offers an outstanding educational environment within a diverse, active, and safe urban setting. Its cosmopolitan structure blends traditional neighborhoods, green spaces, and a constantly evolving cultural scene.

The city provides an excellent quality-to-price ratio in services, gastronomy, and entertainment. From iconic steakhouses to historic cafés, bookstores, markets, and cultural venues, Buenos Aires is easy to enjoy without major expenses—especially for international visitors.

Its nightlife is world-renowned for its variety and energy: tango shows, concerts, themed bars, cultural centers, and theaters are part of a wide range of options that reflect the city's unique identity.

It is also a walkable and safe city, with an efficient public transport system and a wide array of free or low-cost activities. All of this makes it an ideal place for studying, cultural exchange, and enjoyment.

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**Best city for
students in the
region**

QS-Best Student Cities