

Syllabus

for course at first level

Macroeconomic Theory and Applications (part time study plan)
Makroteori med tillämpningar (långsam studietakt)

**15.0 Higher Education
Credits**
15.0 ECTS credits

Course code: EC1212
Valid from: Autumn 2010
Date of approval: 2010-05-27
Department Department of Economics
Subject Economics

Decision

This syllabus was approved by the Board of the Department of Economics on June 13, 2007.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Swedish upper secondary school courses English B, Mathematics C and Social Sciences A or equivalent.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
121A	Macroeconomic Theory and Applications	15

Course content

This course provides an introduction to macroeconomic problems and methods. The course consists of a theoretical and an applied component. The theoretical section discusses principles for the calculation of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and theories of how production, unemployment and inflation are determined. It also surveys theories of how financial and monetary policies affect the economy in the short and medium term, as well as theories of growth, business cycles and of how different currency systems affect the GDP, employment rate and conditions for the economic policy. The applied section of the course focuses on problems of stabilisation policy in an open economy, cyclical and long-term economic development and different views of the role and potential of stabilisation policy. The course also provides a general overview of the development of economics.

This course is aimed at anyone wishing to learn the basics of macroeconomic analysis. Macroeconomic analysis is widely used in banks, certain parts of public administration and international organisations dealing with economic affairs. It is the foundation of various types of economic analysis.

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student is expected to:

- Understand the principles for the organisation of national accounts and calculations of GDP;
- Be able to interpret the meaning of macroeconomic statistics;
- Understand connections between macroeconomic variables, such as GDP, unemployment, interest rate, price rate and exchange rate;
- Know how monetary and financial policies are pursued;
- Understand how salary formation works and how it is affected by institutional factors;
- Know how Swedish economic policy has been pursued from an historical perspective;

- Understand the difference between positive and normative analyses;
- Be able to analyse the effects of financial and monetary policies in the short and medium term;
- Be able to analyse how structural changes affect production and unemployment.

Education

Instruction is given in the form of lectures, group work and seminars. The language of instruction is Swedish.

Forms of examination

The course is examined on the basis of a written examination plus compulsory written assignments. Some of the points on the examination may be awarded for participation in tests and continuous assessment during the course.

Students will receive letter grades on a seven-point scale related to the learning objectives of the course: Passing grades are A, B, C, D and E, where A is the highest grade and E the lowest. Failing grades are F and Fx, where F is lower than Fx.

Assessment criteria:

- **A (Excellent):** The student is able to describe basic macroeconomic concepts and theories. The student should also be able to describe how central macroeconomic variables have developed over time, how monetary and financial policies are pursued, how the labour market is affected by different institutions, and describe those institutions which are important to the Swedish labour market. He or she must be able to perform an independent analysis of a macroeconomic issue in an accurate and well-structured manner on the basis of the course's theoretical and applied components. The student must also be able to demonstrate the ability to distinguish between positive and normative analysis.
- **B (Very Good):** The student is able to describe basic macroeconomic concepts and theories. The student should also be able to describe how central macroeconomic variables have developed over time, how monetary and financial policies are pursued, how the labour market is affected by different institutions and describe those institutions which are important to the Swedish labour market. He or she must be able to analyse basic issues in a correct and well-structured manner based on a given model.
- **C (Good):** The student is able to describe basic macroeconomic concepts and theories. The student should also be able to describe how central macroeconomic variables have developed over time, how monetary and financial policies are pursued, how the labour market is affected by different institutions and describe those institutions which are important to the Swedish labour market. The student must be able to analyse basic issues in a correct manner based on a given model.
- **D (Satisfactory):** The student is able to describe basic macroeconomic concepts and theories. The student should also be able to describe how central macroeconomic variables have developed over time and how monetary and financial policies are pursued, as well as describe some of the most important institutions in the Swedish labour market. The student must be able to analyse basic issues in a fairly correct manner based on a given model.
- **E (Adequate):** The student is able to describe basic concepts and essential components of macroeconomic theories. The student should also be able to provide a general description of how central macroeconomic variables have developed over time and how monetary and financial policies are pursued, as well as describe the most important institutions in the Swedish labour market.
- **Ex (Inadequate):** The student fulfils the requirements above for E in principle, but has failed to provide clear argumentation upon request.
- **E (Totally Inadequate):** The student is unable to analyse basic issues without making major mistakes.

If students fail a course unit and receive the grade Fx or F on an examination, there are no restrictions on how many times they are allowed to retake the examination in order to obtain a grade of E or higher.

Interim

If this course is discontinued, students have the right to be examined on the course once per semester for three further semesters.

Limitations

This course may not be included in a degree together with any of the following courses: NE1060 Grundkurs i nationalekonomi (30 ECTS credits), NE1200 Grundkurs i mikroteori med tillämpningar (15 ECTS credits),

NE1300 Grundkurs i nationalekonomi, part time (30 ECTS credits), NE1400 Grundkurs i nationalekonomi för matematik-ekonomilinen (30 ECTS credits), NE8400 Grundkurs i nationalekonomi på ekonomlinjen (30 ECTS credits), KG8110 Grundkurs i samhällsplanering (90 ECTS credits), KG8120 Fysisk och ekonomisk planering med statistik (30 ECTS credits) or EC1203 Macroeconomics (7.5 HECs).

Required reading

- Blanchard, Macroeconomics, Prentice-Hall, the latest edition.
- M. Persson and E. Skult, Tillämpad makroekonomi, SNS förlag, the latest edition.
- C.-H. Siven, Kompendium i doktrinhistoria – en översikt av nationalekonomins utveckling. Department of Economics. Available on the course website.
- Articles. Full list on the course web site.