Stockholm University

Syllabus
for course at first level

Empirical Methods in Economics I
Empirical Methods in Economics I

7.5 Higher Education Credits
7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	EC2403
Valid from:	Autumn 2010
Date of approval:	2010-05-27
Department	Department of Economics
Subject	Economics

Decision

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements
Economics I, 30 credits, or equivalent.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
240A	Essay	7.5

Course content
The aim of this course is to provide an understanding of the statistical methods needed in order to analyze economic problems empirically. The analytical tools and concepts taught during the course are used in several different professions, ranging from public administration to financial analysis and marketing.

Learning outcomes
Upon completion of this course, the student is expected to be able to:

•Independently carry out an empirical project;
•Explain and interpret the results of a regression analysis;
•Explain the fundamental possibilities and limitations of regression analysis;
•Identify strengths and weaknesses of empirical studies.

Education
Instruction is given in the form of lectures and seminars. The language of instruction is English.

Forms of examination
The course is examined on the basis of assignments and a final essay.

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): Able to independently carry out an empirical project using regression analysis and interpret the results from an independently identified problem. Able to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of regression analysis, as well as clearly relating the specified problem to the empirical analysis.

•B (Very Good): Able to independently carry out an empirical project using regression analysis and interpret the results. Able to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of regression analysis, as well as showing a clear relation between the specified problem and the empirical analysis.

•C (Good): Able to independently carry out an empirical project using regression analysis and interpret the results. Able to show an understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of regression analysis.

•D (Satisfactory): Able to independently carry out an empirical project using regression analysis and interpret the results.

•E (Adequate): Able to carry out an empirical project using regression analysis and able to interpret the results to some extent.

•Fx (Inadequate): Fulfils the requirements for E, but has not handed in all written assignments.

•F (Totally Inadequate): Does not fulfil the requirements for E.

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: NE2010 Fortsättningskurs i nationalekonomi (30 ECTS credits), NE2300 Fortsättningskurs i nationalekonomi på ekonomlinjen (30 ECTS credits), NE2400 Fortsättningskurs i nationalekonomi för matematik-ekonomilinjen (30 ECTS credits), NE2410 Fortsättningskurs i nationalekonomi för matematik-ekonomilinjen (22.5 ECTS credits), NE2500 Fortsättningskurs i samhällskunskap med inriktning mot nationalekonomi (30 ECTS credits), KG8140 Fysisk och ekonomisk planering med statistik - inriktning nationalekonomi (60 ECTS credits), NE2017 Empiriska metoder (7.5 ECTS credits), Empirical Methods EC2301 eller EC2301 Empirical Methods I.

Required reading
• Stock, J. H. & M. W. Watson, Introduction to Econometrics, Pearson Education, the latest edition.