

Syllabus

for course at first level

Bachelor's Thesis in Economics
Kandidatuppsats i nationalekonomi

15.0 Higher Education Credits
15.0 ECTS credits

Course code:	EC6902
Valid from:	Spring 2015
Date of approval:	2012-05-24
Changed:	2014-09-04
Department	Department of Economics
Main field:	Economics
Specialisation:	G2F - First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

This syllabus was approved by the Board of the Department of Economics on September 4, 2014.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
690A	Bachelor thesis in economics	13.5
690B	Opposition and Seminar Attendance	1.5

Course content

The aim of this course is to provide training in analysing economic issues, particularly in connection with previous courses, by conducting an individual study which is to be presented in the form of a written essay.

Learning outcomes

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

- Conduct an independent economic study using a scientific method of analysis without undue delay;
- Adopt a critical position in relation to the material used in the study;
- Clearly arrange and present the results of the analysis as well as argue orally and in writing for the validity of his or her own results;
- Analyse and evaluate the results of other studies on the same level.

Education

The teaching is given in the form of lectures and essay supervision. Supervision may take place individually as well as in groups. The student is entitled to at least five hours of supervision during the course. The Supervisor is appointed by the Director of Studies. The Director of Studies may allow a change of supervisor if special circumstances and practical conditions exist. Each essay has two authors. The Director of Studies can if special circumstances exist allow one author of the essay.

Forms of examination

The course is examined on the basis of a written essay and the defence of this essay at a formal seminar,

opposition to another student essay at a formal seminar and attendance at five essay seminars. The opposition is carried out together by the authors of the essay.

- The Director of Studies issue rules for the examination of seminar attendance.

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 for essay:

- A (Excellent): Innovative choice of issue and/or interpretation. New and valuable results. Very convincing presentation and argumentation with critical distance to the results of the study. Very well implemented economic theory and empirical data. Good scientific accuracy. No undue delay in conducting the study.
- B (Very Good): Interesting choice of issue and/or interpretation. New and valuable results. Convincing presentation and argumentation with critical distance to the results of the study. Very well implemented economic theory and empirical data. Good scientific accuracy. No undue delay in conducting the study.
- C (Good): Issues, study and analysis are coherent. Partly new results. Fairly convincing presentation and argumentation with critical distance to the results of the study. Well implemented economic theory and empirical data. Scientific accuracy. No undue delay in conducting the study.
- D (Satisfactory): Issues, study and analysis are coherent. Partly new results, but of limited value. Some weaknesses in the presentation and argumentation. Some critical distance to the results of the study. Relevant economic theory and empirical data. Scientific accuracy.
- E (Adequate): Issues, study and analysis are mostly coherent. Partly new results, but of limited value. Weak presentation and argumentation with incomplete critical distance to the results of the study. Fairly relevant economic theory and empirical data.
- Ex (Inadequate): The student fulfils the requirements above for E in principle, but has not met requests to revise his/her essay.
- E (Totally Inadequate): The essay does not fulfil the requirements for E.

Assessment criteria for the formal opposition:

- A (Excellent): Very thorough review of another student's essay. Independently performed task. Correct assessment of the work's strengths and weaknesses. Relevant prioritisation of central versus peripheral problems in the essay. Careful check of scientific accuracy performed.
- B (Very Good): Thorough review of another student's essay. Independently performed task. Fairly correct assessment of the work's strengths and weaknesses. Relevant prioritisation of central versus peripheral problems in the essay. Careful check of scientific accuracy performed.
- C (Good): Thorough review of another student's essay. Independently performed task. Uncertainties in the assessment of the work's strengths and weaknesses. Fairly relevant prioritisation of central versus peripheral problems in the essay. Check of scientific accuracy performed.
- D (Satisfactory): Correct review of another student's essay. Possible uncertainties in the assessment of the work's strengths and weaknesses. Some confusion of central versus peripheral problems in the essay. Check of scientific accuracy performed.
- E (Adequate): Fairly correct review of another student's essay. Uncertainties in the assessment of the essay's strengths and weaknesses. Confusion of central versus peripheral problems in the essay. Check of scientific accuracy performed.
- Ex (Inadequate): The student fulfils the requirements above for E in principle, but has not participated in an opposition seminar satisfactorily.
- E (Totally Inadequate): The opposition does not fulfil the requirements for E.

Weighting of course grade:

- A (Excellent): The seminar attendance requirement has been fulfilled, the student has received an E or higher on the opposition and an A on the essay.
- B (Very Good): The seminar attendance requirement has been fulfilled, the student has received an E or higher on the opposition and a B on the essay.
- C (Good): The seminar attendance requirement has been fulfilled, the student has received an E or higher on the opposition and a C on the essay.
- D (Satisfactory): The seminar attendance requirement has been fulfilled, the student has received an E or higher on the opposition and a D on the essay.
- E (Adequate): The seminar attendance requirement has been fulfilled, the student has received an E or higher on the opposition and an E on the essay.
- Ex (Inadequate): The seminar attendance requirement has been fulfilled, but the student has received an Fx

on the opposition or on the essay.

•E (Totally Inadequate): The seminar attendance requirement has not been fulfilled or the student has received an F on the opposition or on the essay.

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: EC6901 Kandidatuppsats i nationalekonomi, NE3070 Påbyggnadskurs i nationalekonomi 20 poäng, NE3300 Påbyggnadskurs i nationalekonomi på ekonomlinjen (30 ECTS credits), NE4300 Fördjupningskurs i nationalekonomi för ekonomlinjen (30 ECTS credits), NE3500 Påbyggnadskurs i samhällskunskap med inriktning mot nationalekonomi (30 ECTS credits), KG8140 Fysisk och ekonomisk planering med statistik - inriktning nationalekonomi (60 ECTS credits) or EC3000 Economics III (30 HECs).

Misc

Prerequisites and admission requirements

Admission to this course requires general eligibility for studies on the First Level, plus (1) 30 HECs in economics on the First Level (Economics I) and (2) 30 HECs in economics on the Second Level (Economics II), including 22.5 HECs consisting of the courses Intermediate Microeconomics (7.5 HECs), Intermediate Macroeconomics (7.5 HECs) and Empirical Methods in Economics I (7.5 HECs). Alternatively, equivalent prerequisites may be attained in other ways.

Required reading

•Mahmood, Arai, Michael Lundholm and Astrid Muren, Att genomföra ett examensarbete i nationalekonomi vid Stockholms universitet, the latest edition, available on the course website.