

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Policy Analysis in Labor Economics

Policyanalys i arbetsmarknadsekonomi

7.5 Higher Education

Credits

7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	EC7414
Valid from:	Autumn 2013
Date of approval:	2013-05-23
Department	Department of Economics
Subject	Economics
Specialisation:	A1F - Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

This syllabus was approved by the Board of the Department of Economics on 23 May, 2013.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Admission to this course requires that the student is either (1) enrolled in a Master's Programme in Economics at Stockholm University, or (2) has (a) eligibility for the Master's Programme in Economics at Stockholm University, and (b) prerequisites equal to the mandatory courses that have been given prior to this course according to the current curriculum for the Master's Programme in Economics.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
741A	Policy Analysis in Labor Economics	7.5

Course content

This course deals with the analysis of economic policy measures. Two fundamental questions run like a thread through the course: (i) What market failure is a given measure meant to correct? (ii) What effect did the measure have? These two questions are analysed in the context of various applications. The applications cover many policy areas. Examples include education policy, labour policy, and the design of tax and social security systems.

Learning outcomes

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

- Have a good understanding of the empirical methodological problems associated with determining the effects of intervention;
- Have a good understanding of various empirical methods used to determine the effects of intervention;
- Be able to conduct a basic theoretical analysis in the context of the applications discussed in the course;
- Be able to identify different types of market failures and understand their implications.

Education

Instruction is given in the form of lectures. Instruction is largely based on the articles listed on the course website. In the end of the course, the students will present drafts of their own essays (so-called term papers). The language of instruction is English.

Forms of examination

The course is examined on the basis of a written examination and a written assignment (term paper). 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 has a well-developed overall grasp of the key elements of the course and is capable of conducting a thorough and coherent theoretical and empirical policy analysis.
- B (Very Good): The student has an overall grasp of the key elements of the course and is capable of conducting a thorough and coherent theoretical and empirical policy analysis.
- C (Good): The student has an overall grasp of the key elements of the course and is largely capable of conducting a coherent theoretical and empirical policy analysis.
- D (Satisfactory): The student has a grasp of the most important elements of the course and is in principle able to conduct a coherent theoretical and empirical policy analysis.
- E (Adequate): The student is able to give an account of the most important elements of the course and is able to conduct a simple theoretical and empirical policy analysis.
- Fx (Inadequate): The student is only able to give a partial account of some elements of the course and can only partially conduct a simple theoretical and empirical policy analysis.
- E (Totally inadequate): The student is unable to give an account of the most important elements of the course and is unable to conduct a simple theoretical and empirical policy analysis.

If students fail a course unit and receive the grade Fx or F in 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.

Required reading

See course homepage available from www.ne.su.se.