



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

EKG107 Economic Geography: The Geography of Innovation, 7.5 credits

Ekonomisk geografi: innovationernas geografi, 7,5 högskolepoäng

First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Business Administration on 2023-06-21 to be valid from 2024-09-02, autumn semester of 2024.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Department of Business Administration

Position in the educational system

The course is offered as a freestanding course.

Main field of studies

Economic Geography

Specialization

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Entry requirements

General entrance requirements.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

1. explain key concepts in economic geography and innovation studies,
2. analyze the geography of innovation and identify the factors that shape where innovation activities take place,
3. demonstrate understanding of European innovation policy and how it affects innovation activities in different regions of Europe,
4. demonstrate critical thinking skills and the ability to communicate ideas effectively both orally and in writing,
5. apply theories and concepts in a critical way in connection with report writing and

oral presentation.

The qualitative targets for a Degree of Bachelor are related to the course's intended learning outcomes as follows:

Qualitative targets	Learning outcomes
<i>Knowledge and understanding</i>	1+2+3
<i>Competence and skills</i>	2+5
<i>Judgement and approach</i>	4

Course content

The course explores the economic geography of innovation. Theories of technological change, innovation, and knowledge creation will be covered, as well as their application to various levels of analysis, including the firm level, regional level, national level, and supranational level. The course will examine the geography of innovation, investigating the location of innovative businesses and the spatial distribution of innovation activities. Factors such as geographical proximity, knowledge spillovers and institutional context will be discussed in terms of their role in shaping innovation patterns. Additionally, the course will address European innovation policy and its impact on innovation activities in different European regions.

Form of teaching

Lectures, seminars and excursion.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

Learning outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 4 are examined through a written exam.

Learning outcomes 4 and 5 are examined through a written report, which is carried out in a group, as well as participation in seminars where the reports are presented and discussed.

A written report that does not meet the requirements for a passing grade (G) can either qualify for a re-submission in order to meet the minimum requirements or be deemed of such quality that the writing of an entirely new report is necessary. A revised written report must be submitted for re-assessment within the prescribed time.

Compulsory attendance

Participation in seminars and the excursion is mandatory. For students who have not been able to attend the regular seminar, an extra session will be arranged. Students who are unable to attend the excursion must complete a makeup-assignment within the prescribed time.

If a student who has twice received a failing grade for the same examination component wishes to change examiner ahead of the next examination session, such a request should be made to the department in writing and should be approved by the department unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6 Section 22 of the Higher Education Ordinance).

If a student has received a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg for study support for students with disabilities, the examiner may, where it is compatible with the learning outcomes of the course and provided that no unreasonable resources are required, decide to allow the student to sit an adjusted exam or alternative form of assessment.

In the event that a course has ceased or undergone major changes, students are to be guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the ordinary examination session) over a period of at least one year, but no more than two years after the course has ceased/been changed. The same applies to internships and professional placements (VFU), although this is restricted to just one additional examination session.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Excellent (A), Very good (B), Good (C), Satisfactory (D), Sufficient (E) and Fail (F).

To pass the course, a student must have achieved all learning outcomes. This means that Pass (G) is required on the group assignment and a passing grade (A-E) on the final exam. The compulsory elements of the course must also be completed. The course grade (A-F) is based on the final exam.

Grade (Definition) Characteristic:

A (Excellent) A distinguished result that is excellent with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

B (Very good) A very good result with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

C (Good) The result is of a good standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought and lives up to expectations.

D (Satisfactory) The result is of a satisfactory standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

E (Sufficient) The result satisfies the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought, but not more.

F (Fail) The result does not meet the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

Some occasional examination elements of the course may have the grading scale UG (Fail/Pass).

Course evaluation

A course evaluation is conducted anonymously either digitally via the course website or via a written questionnaire handed out at the last scheduled meeting of the course or in connection with the exam. The results of the evaluation are to be communicated to students via the course committee and course website.

The results of and possible changes to the course will be shared with students who participated in the evaluation and students who are starting the course.