



GRADUATE SCHOOL

GM0161 Master Degree Project in International Business and Trade, 30 credits

Examensarbete i internationellt företagande, 30 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Graduate School on 2020-11-12 and was last revised on 2022-10-18 to be valid from 2023-01-16, spring semester of 2023.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Graduate School

Position in the educational system

The course Master Degree Project in International Business and Trade, is a course within the Master of Science programmes at the Graduate School, School of Business, Economics and Law, University of Gothenburg.

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Master of Science in International Business and Trade (S2IFÖ)

Main field of studies

International Business and Trade

Specialization

A2E, Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits)

Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course Master Degree Project in International Business and Trade students must have passed at least 60 credits of the 90 credits from the three first terms of the programme. Out of the 60 credits passed, 37.5 credits from the first year's core courses must be included. Students must also have a registration on the courses term three to be eligible for the course.

Learning outcomes

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

1. carry through an extensive and independent written Master Degree Project (thesis), using relevant scientific theories and methods in International Business and Trade research field, and to defend the choice of theory, method, as well as the conclusions and recommendations in an oral presentation
2. critically evaluate data and other material as well as to discuss and to provide constructive criticism on theses written by other course participants
3. recognize when further knowledge and study is necessary and to take responsibility for his or her further knowledge development.

Course content

The objective of the Master Degree Project (thesis) is to synthesize acquired theoretical, methodological, and practical knowledge and skills into an independently written work that reaches the quality level of a Master of Science thesis according to common international academic standards.

The topic of the thesis shall be decided in consultation with the thesis supervisor, and shall in normal cases comprise a theoretical part that is related to the relevant scientific literature, and an empirical part, that consists of material gathered through practical fieldwork. Thesis projects, which are carried through in close contacts with and/or commissioned, by multinational corporations or international organizations are particularly encouraged.

Each student is assigned a supervisor based on the thesis topic and available capacity of supervision within the faculty. Individual and/or group tutoring is offered during the course. The supervision builds on knowledge the student has acquired from earlier studies in the master's programme and the course in research methods.

The thesis shall be presented and defended in a joint final seminar, which also comprises an oral presentation. Besides, each student is required to act as a discussant at thesis presentations held by other students within the course. Active participation in the final seminar is compulsory.

Form of teaching

Teaching will take place in form of seminars.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The student will be graded based on a qualitative assessment of the written report in relation to the learning outcomes. The degree project shall be presented at an open thesis seminar, which may be attended by, apart from the other participants in the

programme, other master's students, faculty members and representatives from the business community. The oral presentation, the ability to defend the structure, contents and conclusions of the thesis, as well as the ability to provide insightful and constructive criticism of the theses presented by other course participants will also constitute parts of the final grading.

A failed Master Degree Project can be supplemented to a passing grade (A-E). A student who, during the current course, does not complete the Master Degree Project in time does not have the right to more tutoring time. However, the student always has the right to have the Master Degree Project assessed at subsequent examination occasion. The number of examinations is limited to five.

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.

Grades

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

Course evaluation

The course will be evaluated upon completion. 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.