



GRADUATE SCHOOL

GM0754 Economic Research Process, 7.5 credits

Nationalekonomisk forskningsprocess, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Graduate School on 2023-09-25 to be valid from 2024-01-15, spring semester of 2024.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Graduate School

Position in the educational system

The course Economic Research Process is a course within the Master of Science programmes at the Graduate School, School of Business, Economics and Law, University of Gothenburg.

Main field of studies

Economics

Specialization

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course Economic Research Process the participant must fulfill the entrance qualifications for the Master of Science programme in Economics. For programme specific entrance requirements, see programme syllabus.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

1. demonstrate knowledge of how to use observational data to analyze economic problems

2. plan a relevant research project contributing to existing knowledge in economics:
 - a) state a feasible and testable economic research question(s)
 - b) motivate the scientific relevance of the question(s) using economic theory and research

Competence and skills

3. demonstrate ability to use the methods covered during the course to handle observational data and analyze responses by using relevant econometric methods
4. design an economic experiment

Judgement and approach

5. critically evaluate and reflect on the limitations and strengths of the methods covered in this course
6. reflect over ethical aspects in the whole research process, ranging from the research question itself to collecting and analyzing data.

The course is sustainability-focused, which means that at least one of the learning outcomes clearly shows that the course content meets at least one of the University of Gothenburg's confirmed sustainability criteria. The content also constitutes the course's main focus.

Course content

The main purpose of this advanced economics course is to teach students various methods for evaluating economic behaviour, policies and reforms and to train them in a research process. Applications to various fields such as development, environment and health will be discussed. Through these applications the students will learn advanced methods used in applied economics. Large part of the course consists of econometrical analyzes in form of computer labs. In addition, the course will teach students how to use economic experiments, both lab and field, how to estimate individual preferences and how to measure consumer response to price and other attributes.

Form of teaching

Lectures, seminars, computer labs, and written assignments.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

Learning outcomes 1-6 are assessed through written group assignments.

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 number of examinations is limited to five.

Grades

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

Pass is required on all learning outcomes. The grade (A-E) corresponds to the total score a student obtains on the group assignments. To receive a pass grade (A-E) $\geq 50\%$ points is required. The scale is tied to fixed score intervals:

A: 85-100%

B: 75-84%

C: 68-74%

D: 60-67%

E: 50-59%

F: $<50\%$

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.