



LUND
UNIVERSITY

School of Economics and Management

BUSO91, Business Administration: Empirical Corporate Finance, 5 credits

Företagsekonomi: Empirical Corporate Finance, 5 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Business Administration on 2019-10-20 to be valid from 2019-10-20, autumn semester 2020.

General Information

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Business Administration

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

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

Learning outcomes

A passing grade on the course will be awarded to students who:

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge of parameter estimation, interpretation, and hypothesis testing in cross-sectional and panel settings and in models with discrete phenomena;
- demonstrate knowledge of how to deal with endogeneity;
- demonstrate knowledge of diagnostics testing, especially ability to explain the nature of, diagnose, and solve commonly occurring problems in residual error structures.

Competence and skills

- demonstrated ability to use econometric techniques on corporate finance problems by means of suitable software;
- clearly and unambiguously can communicate the results and their analyses and conclusions of econometric investigations of corporate finance problems.

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate ability to select appropriate econometric techniques based upon the corporate finance problem that is investigated and the statistical properties of the data;
- demonstrate ability to analyze and interpret the results of their econometric testing.

Course content

The course aims to provide working knowledge of econometric methods for analyzing corporate finance data. Through exercises and assignments, the course trains students in analyzing and undertaking empirical investigations on cross-sectional and panel data. Emphasis is put on choosing and using appropriate models by means of econometric software. This is not a theory course and the focus is on learning the econometric intuition behind the methods studied and how to use them properly on econometric exercises rather than deriving asymptotic properties of estimators.

Econometric methods covered primarily include techniques for analyzing cross-sectional and panel data. Topics include parameter estimation, hypothesis testing, and diagnosing misspecification, causality and mitigating endogeneity using instrumental variables, natural experiments, and matching methods.

Course design

The course is conducted in the form of lectures, exercises, and computer labs. The course emphasizes applied learning, where participants learn to use econometrics methods using statistical software. To facilitate this, computer labs where participants work on real data make up an important part of the teaching and learning activities on the course. Self-study of the course literature is essential and the assigned readings are integral parts of the teaching and learning activities.

Assessment

See appendix including examination sessions. (Will be attached to the curriculum auto Assessment and grading are based on assignment work and empirical exercises. Since the course emphasizes applied learning, important parts of the examination are focused on participants employing the studied analysis techniques.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A.

A (Excellent) 85-100. A distinguished result that is excellent with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

B (Very good) 75-84. A very good result with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

C (Good) 65-74. 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) 55-64. The result is of a satisfactory standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

E (Sufficient) 50-54. The result satisfies the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical

relevance, analytical ability and independent thought, but not more.

F (U) (Fail) 0-49. 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 pass (D) / fail U(F).

Plagiarism is considered to be a very serious academic offence. The University will take disciplinary actions against any kind of attempted malpractice in examinations and assessments. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other improper practices in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University for a specific period of time.

Entry requirements

Students admitted to a Master Programme where this course is either a compulsory or elective part, are qualified for the course. For other students, at least 90 UCP or ECTS cr in Business Administration is required. These must include a course in basic Business Administration (e g, FEKA90 Business Administration: Introductory course in Business Administration), a course in financial accounting, at least 15 UCP in corporate finance/financial management (e g, FEKH81 Corporate Finance).

Students are expected to have successfully completed an undergraduate course in statistics or econometrics covering, at least, cross-sectional regression modeling using ordinary least squares and diagnosis of autocorrelation, heteroscedasticity, and multicollinearity.

Further information

In case of closure of the course: Within three semesters after the course closure there will be offered three additional occasions for examination of respective examination part of the course, for students with no successful result. Note that after this you can get a certificate only regarding completed examination parts.