**School of Economics and Management**

# EOSE11, Economy and Society: Research Design, Methods and Data Collection, 15 credits

*Ekonomi och samhälle: Forskningsdesign, metoder och datainsamling, 15 högskolepoäng*

**First Cycle / Grundnivå**

## Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Economic History on 2018-09-04 to be valid from 2019-01-01, spring semester 2019.

## General Information

The course is mandatory during the sixth term of the BSc programme Economy and Society.

*Language of instruction:* English

| Main field of studies | Depth of study relative to the degree requirements |
|---|---|
| Economy and Society | G2F, First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements |

## Learning outcomes

The course aims to provide students with foundational knowledge in research design, methods, data collection and implementation. The course is divided into three primary modules.

**Research Design**
In the first module, the student is introduced to the foundations of research design through a discussion of the relationship between the research question and appropriate choice of method. The students practice identifying relevant research topics, formulating feasible research questions, critically relating to relevant sources, choosing methods and the scope of data collection to be undertaken.

**Method/Data Collection**
The methodology comprises the largest part of the course. The students are introduced to the basic differences and similarities between qualitative and quantitative methods. They are introduced to alternative methodological approaches

and learn about the practical application of the various approaches.

**Practical Application**
The objective of the final component of the course is to combine the competences the student has attained from the two previous modules. Using their own chosen essay topic as the point of departure, the students are to identify a specific subject, formulate a feasible research question, choose an appropriate design, as well as provide a discussion on data collection and analysis.

## Knowledge and understanding
- Knowledge of how to formulate research questions and how to make an informed choice of appropriate methodology
- Understanding of the relationship between the research question and the research design
- Familiarity with qualitative and quantitative methods

## Competence and skills
- The ability to formulate feasible research questions
- The capacity to critically compare research methods
- The ability to link research questions with an appropriate methodology

## Judgement and approach
- Ability to be able to critically and objectively identify strengths and weaknesses with various research methods
- Individual ability to choose a research method from an independently formulated research question
- Capacity to critically assess data and to identify its strengths and weaknesses

## Course content

The course is composed of three sections.

**Research Design**
This section represents 2.5 ECTS.  Emphasis is placed upon how research questions are developed and organised. The students are introduced to alternative types of questions and research designs, e.g. case studies, comparative studies and alternative methods of identifying causality. The relationship between theory and the empirical approach is considered and various approaches are compared. Special emphasis is placed upon the discussion of the relationship between the research question and choice of method and organisational structure.

**Method/Data Collection**
This section represents 10 ECTS. The students are introduced to the primary methodological issues and techniques in quantitative and qualitative methods. They gain experience in source critiquing, coding quantitative and qualitative data and the foundations of econometric and statistical analysis. The student is also offered the opportunity to practice different techniques in data processing.

**Practical Application**
This section represents 2.5 ECTS. Emphasis is placed upon practical training. The students are given the opportunity to enhance their skills in formulating research questions, organising studies appropriately and applying suitable research methods

from the relevant material. This section consists of individual and group supervision.

## Course design

The course consists of lectures, seminars, data laboratories and practical exercises in data collection.

## Assessment

Examination takes the form of continuous assessment composed of oral and written elements. Oral examination takes the form of seminar activities, presentations and group supervision. The written examination consists of shorter essay submissions.

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

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.

*Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.*

## Grades

Marking scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A.
At the School of Economics and Management grades are awarded in accordance with a criterion-based grading scale UA:

A: Excellent
B: Very good
C: Good
D: Satisfactory
E: Sufficient
U: Fail

### 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.

To pass the course, the students must have been awarded the grade of E or higher.

Students who do not obtain grades A-E on their written class room exam will be offered opportunities to retake the exam in which case the student will be assessed according to regular procedure. In the case of home exams that are handed in after the set deadline the teacher can: a) hand out a new exam which will be assessed according to regular procedure, b) may penalize the student by handing out a lower grade on the assignment in question unless the student can demonstrate special circumstances for the delay.

# Entry requirements

Students accepted for the BSc programme Economy and Society who have obtained at least 120 credits during the programme qualify for the course.

Subcourses in EOSE11, Economy and Society: Research Design, Methods and Data Collection

Applies from V19

1901   Research Design, Methods and Data Collection, 15,0 hp
       Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A