



School of Economics and Management

## NEKN01, Economics: Master Essay I, 15 credits

*Nationalekonomi: Examensarbete - magisternivå, 15 högskolepoäng*  
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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### Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by The Board of the Department of Economics on 2011-06-07 and was last revised on 2015-05-05. The revised syllabus applied from 2015-08-31, autumn semester 2015.

### General Information

This is a single subject master course in economics. The course is either obligatory or optional within a number of master programmes at Lund University.

*Language of instruction:* English and Swedish

*Main field of studies*

Economics

*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

A1E, Second cycle, contains degree project for MA/MSc (60 credits)

### Learning outcomes

#### 1. Knowledge and understanding

Students shall demonstrate:

- an understanding of advanced theories and models in the chosen area,
- knowledge of relevant empirical methods to analyse the chosen issue,
- an understanding of the relevant theories and methods to analyse the problem of the essay.

#### 2. Skills and abilities

Students shall have the ability to independently:

- apply advanced theories and models in the chosen area,

- apply relevant empirical methods to analyse the chosen issue,
- draw relevant conclusions from the analysis undertaken,
- adopt a critical and scientific approach,
- account for and discuss the analysis undertaken in writing in a structured and scientific manner,
- adequately summarise the content of the essay and the most important conclusions, in speech and in writing,
- present and discuss the essay at a seminar,
- evaluate and discuss other essays.

### 3. Applying knowledge and making judgements

Students shall develop:

- an ability to identify relevant research issues with a high degree of independence,
- an ability to initiate and undertake a scientific investigation with a high degree of independence,
- an ability to seek, evaluate, analyse and critically examine information with a high degree of independence,
- a scientific approach.

## Course content

The course consists of writing an essay that is publicly defended at a seminar with a discussant and to discuss another essay at a seminar. The essay shall be written individually or by two students writing together. In the process of writing, the student is advised by one or more tutors. The course starts with some gatherings for general information on writing essays and seeking information through the library.

## Course design

1. Teaching: In the beginning of the course, there are some meetings. The course is ended by seminars. Apart from this, tuition consists of individual supervision.

At the start of an essay, the student states what seminar period the essay shall be presented. If an essay has not been presented at the latest two seminar periods after the stated seminar period, the student does not have the right to further supervision unless there are exceptional circumstances. If an essay has been presented but failed at two attempts, the student does not have the right to further supervision unless there are exceptional circumstances.

## Assessment

1. Examination: Examination consists of writing the essay, presenting the essay at a seminar, discussing another essay and actively participating in at least three other seminars. Individual performance during the work on the essay can affect the grade. The grade is decided by an examiner and not the supervisor. The essay must be provided to the database of the Economic Library in order to pass the course.

2. Limitations on the number of examination opportunities: –

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

*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.

1. Grading: Grade (Definition), Points or percentage out of maximum points, Characteristic

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.

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.

U (Fail), 0–49, The result does not meet the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought. Students have to receive a grade of E or higher in order to pass a course.

2. Weighting grades from different parts of the course: –

3. Grading scales for different parts of the course: –

## Entry requirements

Students who are admitted to the Master Programme in Economics and have at least 30 ECTS-credits from the advanced level are qualified for this course. For other students, at least 90 ECTS-credits in economics are needed for admission till this course. These credits must include 30 ECTS-credits from the introductory course, a course in intermediate microeconomics (e.g. NEKG21), a course in intermediate econometrics or quantitative methods (e.g., NEKG31), a bachelor essay (e.g. NEKH01), and at least 30 ECTS-credits from the advanced level, or equivalent courses.

## Further information

1. Transitional regulations: This course replaces NEKM01 "Master Essay I".

2. Limitations in the period of validity: –

3. Limitations: This course may not be included in the same degree as NEK791 "Degree Project D", NEK790 "Degree Project" or NEKM01 "Master Essay I".

4. Similar courses: –

5. Limitations in renewed examination: When an essay is presented and get the grade Fail, the student may revise the essay. When the grade Fail is awarded, the examiner shall decide if the revision is of a nature that the essay will have to be presented at a new seminar or if it is sufficient to hand in the revised version. Essays that require a new seminar shall be handed in within a year. This means that the essay shall be handed in at the corresponding seminar period the year after at the latest. Essays that do not require a new seminar shall be handed in within six months after the grade Fail was awarded. Essays that receive the grade Fail for the second time shall be handed in in a revised version within three months after the grade Fail was awarded. For all later versions, the same rules apply as for essays that received the grade Fail for the second time.

## Subcourses in NEKN01, Economics: Master Essay I

### Applies from H14

- 1101 Master Essay 1, 15,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1102 Opposition, 0,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1106 Participation - Seminar 1-3, 0,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass

### Applies from H11

- 1101 Master Essay 1, 15,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1102 Opposition, 0,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1103 Participation - Seminar 1, 0,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1104 Participation - Seminar 2, 0,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1105 Participation - Seminar 3, 0,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass