



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

School of Economics and Management

## **NEKN61, Economics: Advanced Health Economics, 7.5 credits**

*Nationalekonomi: Avancerad hälsoekonomi, 7,5 högskolepoäng*  
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

---

### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Economics on 2011-06-07 and was last revised on 2016-06-14. The revised syllabus applies from 2016-06-14, spring semester 2017.

### **General Information**

This is a single subject master course in economics belonging to the 'Health, Family and Labour Economics' specialisation. The course is either obligatory or optional within a number of master programmes at Lund University.

*Language of instruction:* English

Teaching is in English. (In some semesters the course can be taught in Swedish, see the appropriate application catalogue).

*Main field of studies*

Economics

*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

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

### **Learning outcomes**

#### 1. Knowledge and understanding

Students shall have acquired:

- A good knowledge of the research in a number of core areas in health economics in terms of main issues, methods, results, and unresolved problems,
- a good understanding of the physician-patient relationship in different health care settings, modelling of individual behaviour, health insurance in theory and practice, the nature of competition in health care, the characteristics of innovation and diffusion of technology, the role of demographic change, the relevance of gender aspects, the conditions in developing countries, equity

- considerations in health and health care,
- an awareness of the advantages and problems of working across disciplines.

## 2. Skills and abilities

Students shall have the ability to:

- identify relevant health economic problems, chose an appropriate method and perform an independent analysis of the selected issue,
- deal logically with the relationship between theory, empirical modelling and interpretation of results,
- suggest ways to apply and adjust economic theory and methods to deal with health-related issues,
- make a reflective use of the scientific literature, identifying strengths and weaknesses in theoretical and empirical work,
- communicate at a scholarly level, both orally and in writing, and in different kinds of situations (formal presentations, discussions, *etc.*).

## 3. Applying knowledge and making judgements

Students shall have developed the ability to pursue further studies in the subject and should be able to seek and evaluate new information and sources of information (including data sources) with a high degree of independence. Students shall also have developed the ability to individually write an essay at the master level.

## Course content

Health economics is a sub-discipline of economics and can be defined as the use of economic theory and methodology to analyse anything that is related to health. The course provides an overview of a number of core areas in health economics, with a focus on research issues, methods, results and unresolved issues. These areas usually include individual health related behaviour, the physician-patient relationship, health insurance, competition in the hospital industry, innovation and diffusion of medical technology, equity in theory and practice, health care systems, gender issues, the causes and effects of demographic change and the situation in developing countries. The course provides training in health economic analyses and presentations, both written and oral.

## Course design

1. Teaching: Tuition consists of lectures and various kinds of seminars.

## Assessment

1. Examination: Examination consists of written and oral assignments that combine the following elements: short essays, presentation and discussion of scientific articles, home assignments and a written examination (not all elements are necessarily involved). Written exams take place at the end of the course, and there will be further opportunities for examination close to this date. Other forms of examination may be

used to a limited extent.

2. Limitations on the number of examination opportunities: –

The University views plagiarism and other academic dishonesty 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

At least 60 ECTS-credits in economics are needed, which must include the courses NEKN21 "Advanced Microeconomic Analysis" and NEKN33 "Applied Microeconometrics" or equivalent courses.

## Further information

1. Transitional regulations: This course replaces NEKM39 "Advanced Health Economics".

2. Limitations in the period of validity: –

3. Limitations: This course may not be included in the same degree as NEK731 "Health Economics D" or NEKM39 "Advanced Health Economics".

4. Similar courses. –
5. Limitations in renewed examination: –

## Subcourses in NEKN61, Economics: Advanced Health Economics

Applies from V12

1101 Advanced Health Economics, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A