



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

School of Economics and Management

## **NEKN64, Economics: Advanced Labour Economics, 7.5 credits**

*Nationalekonomi: Avancerad arbetsmarknadsekonomi, 7,5 högskolepoäng*

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Economics on 2013-11-19 and was last revised on 2016-11-15. The revised syllabus applies from 2016-11-15, spring semester 2017.

### **General Information**

This is a single subject master course in economics belonging to the "Health, Labour and Public 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. (Teaching may be in Swedish if all registered students have a good knowledge of Swedish.)

*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**

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

Students shall be able to:

- understand, classify and explain labour economic theories and their implication,
- recognize the strategies and the analytical tools by which these theories are tested in empirical research,
- describe the findings and policy implication of the research discussed in the course.

## Competence and skills

Students shall be able to:

- apply the labour economic theories, empirical findings and empirical strategies studied in the course to analyze the evolution of labour markets and the impact of labour market policies,
- communicate clearly and at a scholarly level both in writing and orally (presentations, discussions, etc.),
- discuss, assess and evaluate research outputs in relation to the existing literature on the topic.

## Judgement and approach

Students shall be able to:

- formulate and investigate hypotheses related to the topics studied in the course,
- pursue further studies in the subject, search and analyze data and scientific information with a high degree of independence.

## Course content

The course covers and discusses recent advances in Labour Economics, with an emphasis on empirical applications. Each lecture focuses on a specific topic. The course starts by discussing theories of labour supply and demand, and proceeds covering economic research analyzing human capital accumulation (with a particular focus on education), wage inequality and discrimination. Topics covered include the effect of migration on labour market outcomes, the influence of parental and social background, and the effectiveness of unemployment and labour market programs. The aim of this course is not only to provide a comprehensive discussion of the status of research in the field of Labour Economics, but also to endow students with the analytic tools necessary to both i) independently analyze and evaluate existing research, and ii) produce knowledge in the form of written essays.

## Course design

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

## Assessment

1. Examination: Examination consists of a written exam, an individual essay and a group presentation of assigned academic papers. Written exams take place at the end of the course. The assigned academic papers shall be presented and discussed at a seminar, in which students are required to play an active part. The essay and the seminar participation must take place in the same term as the written examination. Participation in each of the assessment activities (seminar, essay and exam) is required

to pass the course.

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 90 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 NEKN62 "Topics in Labour Economics".

2. Limitations in the period of validity: –

3. Limitations: This course may not be included in the same degree as NEK732 "Labour Economics D", NEKM55 "Topics in Labour Economics" or NEKN62 "Topics in Labour Economics".

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

## Subcourses in NEKN64, Economics: Advanced Labour Economics

Applies from H14

1301 Advanced Labour Economics, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A