SIMM32, Social Sciences: Quantitative Methods - Multivariate Analysis, 7.5 credits

Samhällsvetenskap: Kvantitativ metod - multivariat analys, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by Graduate School Board on 2015-11-19 and was last revised on 2015-11-19. . The revised syllabus applied from 2016-01-18. , spring semester 2016.

General Information

The course is offered as a single subject course in Social Sciences and is an optional course within the Master of Science in Social Sciences Programmes.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies	Depth of study relative to the degree requirements
Gender Studies	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Education	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Social Anthropology	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Social Work	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Sociology of Law	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Sociology	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Political Science	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Human Geography	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

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

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding
On completion of the course, the student shall demonstrate:

- knowledge of the multivariate statistical techniques most commonly used within the social sciences
- an understanding of the kind of research questions that each method/technique can be used to address
- an ability to summate and – in a highly knowledgeable, independent and theoretically informed way – reflect on advanced quantitative research findings within a defined research area

Competence and skills
On completion of the course the students shall, independently and with proficiency, demonstrate:

- basic skills in performing an analysis using the different techniques covered in the course, including but not limited to multiple regression analysis, logistic regression and factor analysis
- a deeper understanding of at least one of the statistical techniques covered in the course

Judgement and approach
On completion of the course, the student shall demonstrate:

- an ability to independently and critically reflect on the relationship between complex research questions and statistical techniques
- an ability to independently and critically assess the scientific value of research where multivariate statistical techniques are used

Course content

The aim of this course is for students with some prior knowledge of quantitative methods to further develop their understanding of, and ability to independently perform, statistical analysis of social science research questions. Some of the multivariate statistical techniques most commonly used within the social sciences are presented and practiced. The focus is on the relationship between complex research questions and different multivariate statistical techniques. Through the writing of a "research overview", students gain a deeper understanding of the statistical techniques used and develop their ability to evaluate and integrate different research findings within a research area of their choice.

Course design

Teaching includes lectures, teacher assisted exercises in practical statistical analysis (computer lab work) and seminars. The course is teaching intensive and requires a high degree of participation.

Assessment

The learning outcomes related to practical analysis are examined through individual "lab-reports". Each statistical technique is examined separately. The learning outcomes related to critical assessment of quantitative research are examined through the writing of an individually authored research overview.

Three opportunities for examination are offered in conjunction with the course: a first examination and two re-examinations. Within a year of the conclusion of the course, two further re-examination opportunities on the same course content are to be offered. After this, further reexamination opportunities are offered but in accordance with the then current course syllabus.

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.
The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. The grade for a non-passing result is Fail (U).

The student's performance is assessed with reference to the learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of E the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of D the student must show satisfactory results. For the grade of C the student must show good results. For the grade of B the student must show very good results. For the grade of A the student must show excellent results. For the grade of Fail the student must have shown unacceptable results.

At the start of the course students are informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and about the grading scale and how it is applied in the course.

Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course the student must have 150 credits including a graded thesis for the degree of Bachelor, or a completed major, in the Social Sciences, or another equivalent subject. In addition, students must have a minimum of 5 credits, or the equivalence, in quantitative methods at the first cycle level.

A good command of English language both spoken and written, equivalent to English 6/B (advanced) proficiency in the Swedish secondary system, is required. Equivalence assessments will be made according to national guidelines.

Subcourses in SIMM32, Social Sciences: Quantitative Methods -
Multivariate Analysis

Applies from V18

1801   Lab work, 5,0 hp
         Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
1802   Final course paper, 2,5 hp
         Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A

Applies from V16

1501   Quantitative Methods - Multivariate Analysis, 7,5 hp
         Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A