



School of Economics and Management

EKHM51, Economic History: First Year Independent Research, 15 credits

Ekonomisk historia: Uppsatskurs, år 1, 15 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Economic History on 2013-12-03 to be valid from 2014-03-25, autumn semester 2014.

General Information

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Economic History

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A2E, Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits)

Learning outcomes

On a generally level, students will acquire knowledge and skills in independent research work.

Knowledge and understanding

After completing the course, students are expected to be able to:

- identify a relevant research question
- select relevant theoretical and empirical approaches to the research issue
- transfer of theoretical models to testable empirical models and conduct empirical research
- analyze and interpret results from the advanced theoretical and empirical applications

Competence and skills

- apply quantitative and/or qualitative methods on the research issue relevant for the programme
- present a written report in accordance with academic standards that describe their research

Judgement and approach

- discuss, on the basis of academic standards, other research reports

Course content

The course can be read at an advanced level on the subject of Economic History. It can be part of the fulfillment of requirements on independent master's thesis in the master programmes in Economic History, Economic Growth, Innovation and Spatial Dynamics, Economic Demography, and International Economics with a focus on China. The teaching will be in English and the thesis should also be written in English

Course design

The student must define a research question, conduct research and write a thesis independently, but with the support of a supervisor. The supervisor will be appointed at an early stage based on the student's area of interest. In advance of the course start a preparatory seminars will be held where students will present ideas and plans for the work. It is the supervisor's job to support the development from idea to plan and then stimulating and constructive criticism of the student's research work.

In general a thesis consists of 11 000-16 000 words plus a reference list and relevant appendices. It should follow the following structure: (1) introduction to the research issue, and a discussion of the literature in the field, (2) method and data, (3) analysis, (4) results and (5) conclusions. Of course the general structure has to be adapted and refined according to each thesis.

The above applies to individually authored master theses. If the research issue is sufficiently broad or more comprehensive two students can be allowed to collaborate in the thesis work. In such cases, the thesis should be of considerably greater magnitude (20 000-30 000 words).

In addition to writing the essay, the student should also act as a discussant on another thesis at the final seminar.

Assessment

The thesis will be graded by examiners not the student's supervisor. If a thesis is not approved at the first examination the examiner and the supervisor will detail what improvements are required and the student is given the opportunity to submit a revised version for assessment.

The University is looking very seriously at plagiarism. Attempt at plagiarism or cheating will be reported to the University disciplinary board. The penalty could be shorter or longer suspension from the University

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	CHARACTERISTIC	CRITERIA
A	Excellent	A distinguished result that is excellent with regard to the following aspects – theoretical depth, relevance for the subject matter, analytical ability and independent thought.
B	Very good	A very good result with regard to the above mentioned aspects.
C	Good	The result is of a good standard with regard to the above mentioned aspects and lives up to expectations.

D	Satisfactory	The result is of a satisfactory standard with regard to the above mentioned aspects and lives up to expectations.
E	Sufficient	The result satisfies the minimum requirements with regard to the above mentioned aspects, but not more.
U	Fail	The result does not meet the minimum requirements with regard to the above mentioned aspects.

If the thesis is not submitted within the prescribed time limit it will lead to grade deduction. However, if the student can demonstrate special circumstances as the reason for the delay, the assignment will be assessed according to regular procedure.

Entry requirements

Students accepted for the Master's programme in Economic History, Economic Growth, Innovation and Spatial Dynamics, Economic Demography and International Economics with a focus on China qualify for this course.

Further information

This course was previously labelled EKHR01, EKHR11, EKHR21, EKHR31, EKHR51, EKHR61, EKHR71 and EKHR81 and cannot be included in the same degree with this course.

Subcourses in EKHM51, Economic History: First Year Independent Research

Applies from V14

1301 First Year Independent Research, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A