

## **EKHM68, Demographic Transitions, 7.5 credits**

*Demografiska transitioner, 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 Economic History on 2024-03-05 (U 2024/149). The syllabus comes into effect 2024-03-05 and is valid from the autumn semester 2024.

### **General information**

This is a course at the graduate level, which can become part of a Master of Science degree. The course is mandatory for the master's programme EAETU Economic Growth, Population and Development track EKDE Economic Demography. It is optional at the master's programme EAETU Economic Growth, Population and Development, tracks EKHI Economic History and EKUT Economic Development, and the programme. EAEUT. It can also be studied as a single-subject course.

*Language of instruction:* English

*Main field of study*      *Specialisation*

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

### **Learning outcomes**

Generally, the student is to acquire advanced knowledge of demographic transitions and the interaction between population and economic and societal factors, as well as basic knowledge of demographic methods. On completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

### **Knowledge and understanding**

- understand and compare different demographic measures and critically interpret them.
- map demographic transitions regarding fertility, mortality and family in a global perspective over the last centuries.

- possess advanced knowledge of theories of demographic change.

### **Competence and skills**

- independently calculate basic demographic measures, such as life expectancy tables, age-specific and total birth rates
- use demographic measures to describe demographic transitions and interpret trends and patterns.
- individually and/or in a group, orally present theoretical explanations of demographic transitions and relate them to empirical data.

### **Judgement and approach**

- in speech and/or writing, individually and/or in a group, discuss and justify different explanations for demographic phenomena and changes, and relate them to the actual population development.
- understand the discrepancies between different theoretical explanations and assess scant empirical evidence regarding, for example, historical circumstances.
- relate to contradictory theories regarding demographic transitions and make an informed assessment of their suitability based on the empirical data presented.

### **Course content**

The course introduces demographic data, measurement and demographic transitions. It consists of two parts:

Demographic methods. Basic demographic measures and concepts are discussed, such as demographic rates, the lexis diagram, life tables, fertility, nuptiality, and mortality measures

Theories and evidence on global demographic transitions in an historical perspective. The long-term demographic development in the world is discussed and related to different theoretical explanations

### **Course design**

The course is designed as a series of lectures, exercises and laboratory work with reports.

### **Assessment**

Grading is based on individual performance via written assignments, oral presentations and group activities.

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

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

## Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: U=Fail, E=Sufficient, D=Satisfactory, C=Good, B=Very Good, A=Excellent

### Grade (Definition). Characteristic

**A** (Excellent). A distinguished result that is excellent with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

**B** (Very good). A very good result with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

**C** (Good). The result is of a good standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought and lives up to expectations.

**D** (Satisfactory). The result is of a satisfactory standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

**E** (Sufficient). The result satisfies the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought, but not more.

**F** (Fail). The result does not meet the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

To pass the course, the students must have been awarded the grade of E or higher.

Students who do not obtain grades A-E on their written class room exam will be offered opportunities to retake the exam in which case the student will be assessed according to regular procedure. In the case of home exams that are handed in after the set deadline the teacher can: a) hand out a new exam which will be assessed according to regular procedure, b) may penalise the student by handing out a lower grade on the assignment in question unless the student can demonstrate special circumstances for the delay.

## Entry requirements

Students applying for this course should have at least 60 credit points in either economic history, economics, history, economic and social geography, sociology or the equivalent knowledge.

## Further information

This course was previously labeled STAN19, EKHP11, EKHM24, EKM60 and EKHM67 and cannot be included in the same degree as any of these courses.

When the syllabus is discontinued, students have the right to be examined according to this syllabus once per semester during a transition period of three semesters.