



School of Economics and Management

EKHM74, Economic History: Small Business Economics and Entrepreneurship, 7.5 credits

Ekonomisk historia: Småföretagande och entreprenörskap, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Economic History on 2016-05-30 and was last revised on 2016-05-03. The revised syllabus applies from 2016-09-01, autumn semester 2016.

General Information

This is a graduate level course, which can become part of a Master of Science degree. The course is mandatory at the master's programme EAISD Innovation and Spatial Dynamics (second year). It is optional at the master's programmes EAETU Economic Growth, Population and Development, EAEUT Economic Development and Growth and EAGCH International Economics with a Focus on China. It can also be studied as a single-subject course.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Economic History

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

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

Learning outcomes

On a general level the students will acquire advanced knowledge about small business economics and entrepreneurship. More specifically, to pass the assessments the students will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- account for their understanding of small businesses and entrepreneurship in terms of their particular characteristics, new business formation, business closure and business growth, as well as small business finance and public policies in the related area

Competence and skills

- find and work with data in the actual field
- communicate own and other results, both in writing and orally

Judgement and approach

- analyse and synthesize the findings of advanced theoretical and empirical applications in order to formulate own research questions
- review and evaluate the relevance and implications of research within the field for policy purposes
- review, evaluate and synthesize of findings of advanced theoretical and empirical applications in order to formulate own research questions
- independently read, interpret and assess current research in small business economics and entrepreneurship as well as advanced professional reports and analyses

Course content

Today, it is widely acknowledged that entrepreneurship and small businesses contribute to societal development and economic growth. Entrepreneurial activity is basically about finding business opportunities and managing their commercialisation in a (small) firm setting. The individual entrepreneur and small-scale business firm often have a particularly characteristics with regards their need for resources, and the development and growth of the firms which influence the design of public policies for entrepreneurship and small businesses. The course focuses on four aspects:

- The characteristics of entrepreneurship, business formation and small business: this part explains and examines the empirical evidence for the small business sector in society.
- Small business closure and growth: this part of the course looks more closely on the evolution of small business, and the theoretical as well as empirical evidence for their failures and growth.
- Financial markets for entrepreneurship and small businesses: this part of the course will focus on resources, particularly financial resources, needed for entrepreneurial activities and small businesses, discussing the segmentation of financial instruments and possibilities for new and small firms to acquire capital for firm formation and growth.
- Public policies for entrepreneurship and small businesses: this part of the course will focus on different possibilities for governments on different levels (EU, national, and regional) to stimulate entrepreneurship and small businesses in the economy.

Course design

The course is designed as a series of lectures, seminars, and work with research reports.

Assessment

Grading is based on individual performance, via a written home exam, presentations and other mandatory activities, and a research report written in groups of students.

The University views plagiarism very seriously, and will take disciplinary actions against students for any kind of attempted malpractice in examinations and assessments. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other unfair practice in examinations or assessments, includes 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

Students have to receive a grade of E or higher in order to pass a course.

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.

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 penalize 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 accepted for the following master's programmes are qualified for this course: EAETU Economic Growth, Population, and Development, EAEUT Economic Growth and Development, EAISD Innovation and Spatial Dynamics EAGCH International Economics with a Focus on China. Other 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 replaces the courses EKHP09, EKHM23 and EKHM26 and cannot be included in the same degree as any of these.

Subcourses in EKHM74, Economic History: Small Business Economics and Entrepreneurship

Applies from H16

1601 Small Business Economics and Entrepreneurship, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A