



LUND
UNIVERSITY

School of Economics and Management

EKHT54, Economic History: Internship, 15 credits

Ekonomisk historia: Praktik, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Economic History on 2019-10-08 to be valid from 2020-01-01, spring semester 2020.

General Information

The course is offered as an elective course for students of the MSc in Innovation and Global Sustainable Development. Students from other Master's programmes at the Department of Economic History are eligible for the course with the written approval from their programme director or track manager.

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 completion of the course, the students shall be able to demonstrate:

Knowledge and understanding

- knowledge and understanding of the subject area of the internship, including its scientific basis and suitable approaches
- knowledge of relevant empirical methods for the areas encompassed by the internship
- understanding of relevant theories and methods to be applied during the internship

Competence and skills

- ability to apply theories and models relevant to the subject area of the internship
- ability to apply relevant empirical methods to analyse the field related to the internship
- ability to design a qualitative study, which identifies appropriate methods for the research questions
- ability to analyse qualitative data in a rigorous manner
- ability to discuss findings from case studies and other intensive research strategies in a broader empirical and theoretical setting

Judgement and approach

- ability to draw conclusions in the field of innovation for global sustainable development, taking academic, societal and ethic aspects into account
- ability to reflect on and assess the ethical dilemmas of qualitative data collection and analysis
- ability to analyse relevant issues encountered in the field or during the internship, independently and individually.
- insight into the role of scientific knowledge in society and issues regarding responsibility surrounding its use and applicability to contemporary challenges in the field of innovation and global sustainable development.

Course content

The course provides students with the opportunity of an internship that is relevant to the study programme, and the opportunity to gather material for the upcoming Master's degree project. With the support of on-site supervision at the internship facility, the student will gain experience through sophisticated work assignments with continuous collaboration.

The course has two parts:

Part 1. Qualitative methods of data collection and analysis (3 credits): Prior to the internship, the students are required to take a one-week full-time course in qualitative methods of data collection and analysis. This course provides an introduction to qualitative research methodology and a deeper analysis of a selection of qualitative methodologies of enquiry such as case studies, action research, participatory observation and discourse analysis. Students will also learn to work with different instruments for data collection such as interviews, focus groups or observation as well as learn to use dedicated software for qualitative data analysis. Students are required to be well prepared for the different seminars and workshops, read the compulsory literature for the course, draft their own instruments for data collection, and actively participate in the lectures, exercises and discussions.

Part 2. Internship (12 credits). The internship has a minimum duration of 12 weeks full time. Prior to the internship course starts, students will need to prepare a detailed internship research proposal for the planned internship.

During the internship, students are to apply the knowledge acquired from the qualitative course, in terms of both the implementation and revisions to the qualitative methods and the internship research plan. The students are required to keep an internship diary, documenting their daily duties. Students can expect only limited supervision from the course coordinator. Once the student has returned to their studies, the supervisor at the host organisation or company must confirm the student's completion of the internship with a signature.

Course design

The qualitative methods part of the course is based on a mix of learning techniques, including lectures, exercises and plenary discussions. In workshops, the students will work on the design of their own instruments for data collection during their internship. Individual work is required for the preparation of the different assessment components described below as well as the preparations for the practical implementation of the internship research plan.

Assessment

The assessment of the whole course is based on a portfolio comprised of four components:

- 1) an internship proposal, which the student is encouraged to work on throughout the autumn semester
- 2) a research methodology framework
- 3) an internship diary
- 4) an internship report, to be completed after the internship.

See a detailed description of each assessed component below.

Internship proposal:

To gain entry to the course the students are required to submit a proposal for their internship containing information on the purpose of the internship and the relevance of the internship for the Master's programme, particularly how the internship will contribute to the data collection for the degree project. The proposal shall contain information on the organisation and the work duties within the organisation. It shall also include documentation (e.g. in the form of emails) confirming that there will be a contact person at the organisation who is willing to help the student during the internship. Further instructions on the content and format of this proposal will be included in the course syllabus.

Research methodology framework:

The part on qualitative methods is examined through submission and assessment of a research methodology framework. The research methodology framework should include a reflection on the suitability of qualitative methods for the research questions, the instruments of data collection and analysis and the limitations of the chosen qualitative method, as well as ethical considerations, in relation to the suggested reading for the course and the internship proposal submitted prior to the course.

Internship diary:

Based on the knowledge acquired in the qualitative method course, the students are required to keep an internship diary (or log), recording their daily activities and reflecting on any deviation from the internship proposal. The students shall provide a copy of, or temporary access to, their internship diary to the examiner.

Internship report:

In the final internship report, the students integrate all the above components. The report shall include a critical reflection on the knowledge acquired during the internship in relation to the required reading of the first course part (qualitative methods). The report shall critically reflect on the collection and methodological triangulation of data. The report shall include a critical reflection on the knowledge acquired during the internship, and how it relates to the content of their respective Master program and the upcoming degree project. Furthermore, the students may be

required to take an oral exam in the form of a discussion with the course convener. In both the written and oral reports, the students must demonstrate why and in what manner the internship has contributed to their knowledge and experience, in relation to their education.

Students must pass all course assessments to be awarded 15 credits.

The University views plagiarism as a very serious academic offence, and will take disciplinary actions against students for any kind of attempted malpractice in connection with examinations and assessments. 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.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass.

Entry requirements

Students will not be allowed to undertake the internship unless they have completed the three previous semesters of the Master's programme (90 credits).

Students from other Master's programmes at the Department of Economic History who have been approved by their programme director to take this course, may be subject to different entry requirements.

For admission to the course, the student must be able to present documents and relevant contract agreements confirming that the duration of the internship is at least 12 weeks full time.

Further information

Time restriction: The course may only be undertaken during the spring semester of the second year of the Master's programme in Innovation and Global Sustainable Development (January–March).

Disclaimer: Students are responsible for finding a suitable internship, and for financing their own travel, insurance, living expenses etc. (standard insurance must be obtained for internships abroad). The internship must be approved by the programme director.

The offer of an internship must be presented in writing, along with an agreement/contract between Lund University and the institution/organisation/company. Prior to the course and commencement of the internship, the organisation, supervisor and main work duties must be approved by the person(s) responsible for the course.

Students who have already an internship worth 7.5 credits are not eligible for this course.

Subcourses in EKHT54, Economic History: Internship

Applies from V20

- 2001 Qualitative methods of data collection and analysis, 3,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 2002 Internship, 12,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass