

School of Economics and Management

HARN61, Competition Policy and Corruption, 15 credits

Konkurrenspolitik och korruption, 15 högskolepoäng Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Business Law on 2019-11-13 and was last revised on 2019-11-13. The revised syllabus applies from 2020-08-30, autumn semester 2020.

General Information

The course Competition Policy and Corruption is an advanced course which focuses on competition law and sustainable development. The students will study competition policy, including regulation on state aid and public procurement, in European and international trade law. The course focuses in particular on the role competition policy can play in combating corruption in European and international trade.

The course is an optional course for the students achieving a Master of European and International Trade Law. It may also be studied as a single subject course.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies Depth of study relative to the degree

requirements

European and International Trade Law A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle

course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

The students will be trained as reflective practitioners in taking an active part in developing a sustainable society building on innovative thinking. This course will particularly enable the students to understand how competition policy is framing the conditions on the European and international market and make them able to convert regulatory constraints into opportunities. It aims at providing students with knowledge in European and international competition policy, including regulation on state aid and public procurement, especially in relation to problems caused by corruption.

A passing grade on the course will be awarded to students who:

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding regarding the notion of corruption and the competition policy tools for combating corruption;
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the fields of competition, state aid and public procurement law; and
- demonstrate methodological knowledge in competition, state aid and public procurement law.

Competence and skills

- demonstrate an ability to apply the law in the field of competition, state aid and public procurement law;
- demonstrate an ability to independently identify and analyse problems related to competition, state aid and public procurement law; and
- demonstrate an ability to work individually as well as in groups with students from different cultures in order to solve practical problems.

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate an ability to make assessments in the fields of competition, state aid and public procurement law, taking into account relevant scientific, social and ethical aspects, especially in relation to problems caused by corruption; and
- demonstrate an ability to identify their need of further knowledge and to take responsibility for developing their knowledge.

Course content

Competition policy, including regulation on state aid and public procurement, is an essential tool to create fair competition and combat corruption in European and international trade. Highly competitive markets are expected to drive out corruption.

Different forms of corruption can have a highly negative impact on competition conditions. It is not only a question of obvious bribery, which can involve money and valuable gifts or benefits. It may also be a matter of nepotism and conflicts of interest. Corruption may facilitate or enable a practice that is in breach of the rules on competition, state aid or procurement.

Course design

Teaching is structured in lectures and seminars, where students' participation is compulsory.

Assessment

The course requires active participation from the students during lectures, seminars and group works. It also requires individual preparation (self-study).

Examination is based on individual as well as group performance. The exam is an individual written exam. Group performances and other individual performances are case solving activities and can include written short assignment/s and/or oral presentation/s.

In order to pass, students are required to meet the 80% active attendance requirement in the lectures and in the seminars.

The number of occasions that a student can try to complete the examination for the approved result on the course is limited to five occasions.

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, E, D, C, B, A.

At the School of Economics and Management grades are awarded in accordance with a criterion-based grading scale A-U. Students have to receive a grade of E or higher in order to pass the course.

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

Plagiarism is considered to be a very serious academic offence. The University will take disciplinary actions against any kind of attempted malpractice in examinations and assessments. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other improper practices in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University for a specific period of time.

Entry requirements

An undergraduate degree in Law or an undergraduate degree in Economics or Business Administration (BSc, LL.B. or equivalent), including 15 ECTS credits in Law or equivalent knowledge.

A good command of English language, both spoken and written, equivalent to English 6 (advanced level) in the Swedish secondary system.

In addition, students achieving a Master in European and International Trade Law must have passed the examinations of the first semester of the Master's Programme in European and International Trade and Tax Law (Track 1) equivalent to 30 credits.

Subcourses in HARN61, Competition Policy and Corruption

Applies from H20

2001 Exam, 15,0 hp

Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A

2002 Seminars, 0,0 hp

Grading scale: Fail, Pass