



School of Economics and Management

HARN64, Competition Policy and Sustainable Markets, 15 credits

Konkurrenspolitik och hållbara marknader, 15 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Business Law on 2024-12-04. The syllabus comes into effect 2026-01-12 and is valid from the spring semester 2026.

General information

The course Competition policy and sustainable markets is an advanced course which focuses on the interrelation between competition policy and intellectual property rights in promoting and ensuring that development is sustainable. The students will study competition law and intellectual property law and how the legal development in these fields may contribute to innovation and new knowledge to the benefit of society. The course focuses particularly on the intersection between competition law and intellectual property law in order to create sustainable markets.

The course is an optional course for the students achieving a Master of European and International Trade Law.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of study

European and International
Trade Law

Specialisation

A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as
entry requirements

Learning outcomes

The students will be trained as reflective practitioners and learn how sustainable business strategies can be developed in compliance with competition law and intellectual property law. The course will particularly enable students to understand how competition policy and intellectual property rights frame market opportunities and conditions. It aims at providing students with knowledge in competition law and intellectual property law and in particular the intersection between these areas in order to achieve sustainable and fair competition.

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

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding regarding the function of competition law and intellectual property law;
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the field of in competition law and intellectual property law and in particular the intersection between these areas; and
- demonstrate methodological knowledge of competition law and intellectual property law.

Competence and skills

- demonstrate an ability to apply the law in the field of competition law and intellectual property law;
- demonstrate an ability to independently identify and analyse problems related to competition law and intellectual property law; and
- demonstrate an ability to work independently as well as in groups with students from different cultures in order to solve problems.

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate an ability to make assessments in the field of competition law and intellectual property law, taking into account relevant scientific, social and ethical aspects, especially in relation to fair competition and sustainable development;
- demonstrate an ability to identify their need of further knowledge and to take responsibility for developing their knowledge.

Course content

A sustainable competition policy is an essential tool to create fair competition and simultaneously enhance the development of sustainable markets in the European and international context. The course focuses in particular on the intersection between intellectual property protection and competition policy. Companies today face powerful incentives to find more sustainable ways to do business. Consumers are demanding sustainable products which requires innovation, new knowledge and technologies. An effective policy in competition law and intellectual property law pushes companies to meet consumers' needs and adapt their business models to more sustainable markets where sustainable solutions can be chosen over non-sustainable solutions which do not compromise the needs of future generations.

Course design

Teaching is structured in lectures and seminars, where the 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 must meet the 80 % active attendance requirements 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.

Grades

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

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

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.

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

Further information

The courses HARN61 and HARN62 corresponds to the course HARN64 partially. Only one of these courses may be included in the same degree.