

## **NEKN55, Economics: Economics of Evaluations and the Environment, 7.5 credits**

*Nationalekonomi: Samhällsekonomska lönsamhetsbedömning och miljöekonomi, 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 Economics on 2025-04-23. The syllabus comes into effect 2025-04-23 and is valid from the autumn semester 2025.

### **General information**

This is a single subject master course in economics belonging to the 'Public Economics' specialisation. The course is either obligatory or optional within a number of master programmes at Lund University.

*Language of instruction:* English

Teaching may be in Swedish if all registered students have a good knowledge of Swedish.

*Main field of study*

*Specialisation*

Economics

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

### **Learning outcomes**

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

Students shall:

- have acquired a good knowledge of relevant micro and welfare economic theory,
- be able to identify and estimate social costs and benefits in monetary terms using appropriate valuation techniques,
- be able to organise these estimates into social net present values,

- be able to handle risk and uncertainty in evaluation methods,
- understand the social logic behind the use of tools for environmental policy and relevant valuation methods for environmental goods,
- be able to relate their social valuations to international environmental problems.

### **Competence and skills**

Students shall have the ability to independently:

- apply a social view to various economic problems, in particular in relation to the environment,
- assess programs and projects using the most appropriate method of evaluation,
- with a high degree of social insight be able to communicate their economic findings to decision makers and other, both orally and in writing.

### **Judgement and approach**

Students shall have the ability to independently pursue further studies and evaluate research in the area covered by the course. Students shall also have the ability to independently evaluate the content of projects and proposals relating to the costs and benefits to society of different kinds.

### **Course content**

This course deals with the problems of identifying, quantifying and from a monetary perspective evaluating the advantages and drawbacks to society as a whole of various kinds of policy changes with a focus on environmental issues. The main focus is on valuation models based on the theory of welfare economics for effectes where markets are missing or are incomplete. Using different evaluation tools, it is possible to create analyses used as a basis for decisions in a wide range of areas. Examples are taken mainly from environmental economics but also from other economic areas. The parts that deal with environmental economics involves deepening the theoretical and methodological knowledge in the area. It includes forming environmental policy measures, concepts of sustainability and international environmental issues. E.g., we study how the theory and policy of environmental economics has been applied or proposed to deal with sustainability issues.

for non-market goods, where the foundations of welfare economics will serve as a base for the evaluations methods. Examples are taken from environment, transport and health economics.

### **Course design**

1. Teaching: Tuition consists of lectures and seminars.

### **Assessment**

1. Examination: The examination consists of a written exam, various forms of home assignments and active participation in seminars and lectures. The written exam takes place at the end of the course. There will be further opportunities for examination close to this date. Points gained on the home assignments and active participation

count at exams during the current term.

2. Limitations on the number of examination opportunities: –

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

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

1. Grading: Grade (Definition), Points or percentage out of maximum points, Characteristic

A (Excellent), 85–100, A distinguished result that is excellent with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

B (Very good), 75–84, A very good result with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

C (Good), 65–74, The result is of a good standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

D (Satisfactory), 55–64, The result is of a satisfactory standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

E (Sufficient), 50–54, The result satisfies the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought, but not more.

U (Fail), 0–49, The result does not meet the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

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

2. Weighting grades from different parts of the course: –

3. Grading scales for different parts of the course: –

## Entry requirements

Students admitted to the Master programme in Economics are qualified for this course. For other students at least 90 ECTS-credits in economics at the undergraduate level are needed for admission to all master courses in economics.

## Further information

1. Transitional regulations: This course replaces NEKN51 "Economic Evaluation" and NEKN54 "Environmental Economics".

2. Limitations in the period of validity: –

3. Limitations: This course may not be included in the same degree as NEK664 "Cost-Benefit Analysis" or NEKM38 "Economic Evaluation", NEKN51 "Economic Evaluation" or NEKN54 "Environmental Economics".

4. Similar courses: –

5. Limitations in renewed examination: –