

Department of Economics

General Syllabus for Third-Cycle Studies in Economics for the Degree of Doctor at Lund University School of Economics and Management

The syllabus for third-cycle studies in Economics was adopted by the Board of the School of Economics and Management on 15 December 2014, revised on 19 October 2018 and 1 June 2020. See also *Regulations for third-cycle studies at the School of Economics and Management*, reg. no STYR 2018/1589.

The revised General Syllabus applies to postgraduate students admitted after June 1, 2020.

Third-cycle studies are offered to the extent that available resources allow.

1. Description of third-cycle subject area

Economics is a social science subject which analyzes and studies the behavior and economic links at the microeconomic and macroeconomic level with the help of theoretical and empirical tools. The subject focuses on how a society or different elements of a society use its resources and the effects of economic policy measures.

2. Aim of the programme and learning outcomes

The third-cycle programme in Economics aims to provide students with specialised knowledge of Economics, thorough training in research methods and a good understanding of the common research issues and their practical application.

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Doctor, the doctoral student shall

- demonstrate broad knowledge and systematic understanding of the research field as well as advanced and up-to-date specialised knowledge in a limited area of this field, and
- demonstrate familiarity with research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.

Competence and skills

For a Degree of Doctor, the doctoral student shall

- demonstrate the capacity for scholarly analysis and synthesis as well as to review and assess new and complex phenomena, issues and situations autonomously and critically
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods

to undertake research and other qualified tasks within predetermined time frames and to review and evaluate such work

- demonstrate through a dissertation the ability to make a significant contribution to the formation of knowledge through his or her own research
- demonstrate the ability in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings authoritatively in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society in general
- demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge and
- demonstrate the capacity to contribute to social development and support the learning of others both through research and education and in some other qualified professional capacity.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Doctor, the doctoral student shall

- demonstrate intellectual autonomy and disciplinary rectitude as well as the ability to make assessments of research ethics, and
- demonstrate specialised insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used.

Additionally, the doctoral student shall meet the learning outcomes of the syllabi of the compulsory courses.

3. Admission requirements

An applicant has general eligibility for third-cycle studies if he or she

1. has been awarded a second cycle degree,
2. has completed course requirements of at least 240 higher education credits, including at least 60 second cycle credits, or
3. has acquired the equivalent knowledge in some other way, either in Sweden or abroad (Higher Education Ordinance, Chapter 7 Section 39)

An applicant is eligible to be admitted to the third-cycle programme in Economics if he or she fulfils the general admission requirements, and has documented qualifications worth at least 90 credits in Economics, and an independent project (degree project) worth at least 15 credits in Economics.

4. Admission and selection

Admission to third-cycle studies takes place at least once a year. Advertising of vacancies on a programme shall be carried out in good time so that it achieves the appropriate national and international coverage. The vacancy should also be advertised on the notice board and website of the department.

The head of department decides on the admission of doctoral students, after preparation by a collegial body. Selection among the applicants will be based on the applicant's ability to benefit from the programme. Evaluation of an applicant's ability to benefit from the programme is based primarily on previously demonstrated skills in studies, standardised tests and other relevant circumstances. Particular attention is paid to papers in Economics and to coursework within the methodological core of Economics. The number of second cycle credits achieved is not used as a criterion. Admission without funding is not allowed.

In cases where all other criteria for admission to the programme are equal, applicants of the underrepresented gender and applicants of an underrepresented ethnic background will be given precedence.

Studies must be pursued either at 100% or 50%.

5. Programme structure and content

The third-cycle degree programme comprises courses and thesis work. The programme is intended for a study period of a maximum of four years. When a research student is employed on a doctoral studentship and works in the department (maximum 20% of full-time) the study period will be extended accordingly.

At least two supervisors are to be appointed for each doctoral student, of which at least one should have the qualifications of an associate professor. All supervisors are to have undergone training for supervision in third-cycle education. The doctoral student's wishes should, as far as possible, be considered when assigning supervisors.

Information regarding the change of supervisor is available in *Procedure for the change of supervisor at the School of Economics and Management*, reg. no STYR 2016/860.

An individual study plan shall be drawn up for each doctoral student, including how the studies are to be carried out and financed. The individual study plan is to be drawn up by the doctoral student in consultation with the supervisors, and shall be approved by the head of department. The plan is to be reviewed at least once a year. If a doctoral student seriously neglects his/her commitments according to the individual study plan his/her entitlement to supervision and other resources may be withdrawn.

The programme consists of 240 credits, divided into a course component of 90 credits and a thesis component of 150 credits. Active participation in seminars is compulsory, for example service as a critical reviewer. While working on his/her thesis, the doctoral student is expected to present sections at departmental seminars. The student's complete dissertation is evaluated either verbally by an invited discussant, or in writing by an invited reviewer.

The coursework includes the following compulsory components:

- a) at least 15 credits in microeconomic theory;
- b) at least 15 credits in macroeconomic theory;
- c) at least 15 credits in econometrics;
- d) at least 15 credits in mathematical methods;
- e) at least 7.5 credits in statistical methods;
- f) at least 3 credits in research ethics.

The current course information makes clear which of the courses offered by the department meet the compulsory requirements. Courses corresponding to 7.5 credits of macroeconomic theory may be replaced by other courses if this is deemed appropriate due to the orientation of the student's research. This must be stated in the student's individual study plan at the latest when the topic of the thesis is decided.

The remaining courses are to be selected from those the department offers to doctoral students. For all courses, the student is normally required to perform a research-oriented assignment. Exceptions from this must be approved by the head of the department.

A doctoral student is entitled to request the assessment of credit transfer for second cycle courses – or courses included in a Master’s degree, according to the previous regulations – and third-cycle courses taken at other faculties or higher education institutions, in Sweden or abroad. This applies primarily to courses equivalent to the compulsory components of the programme. The assessment should be carried out by an examiner appointed by the head of department. An assessment may have as a result that the doctoral student must do supplementary work (for example a research-oriented assignment) to be able to include the credits in the degree.

6. Teaching and examination

Teaching on the programme consists of lectures, seminars and supervision. The forms of teaching and assessment may vary between courses; compulsory courses always have a written final exam as the most important part of the assessment procedure. Teaching is in English whenever non-Swedish-speaking students participate.

Doctoral students with teaching duties should attend at least two weeks of the University’s teacher training and all doctoral students shall be offered the opportunity to take courses in teaching and learning in higher education.

The doctoral thesis comprises 150 credits. It can be designed either as a monograph or as a compilation thesis consisting of a collection of articles.

Further information regarding the thesis, public defence and the examining committee is available in *Regulations for third-cycle studies at the School of Economics and Management*, reg. no STYR 2018/1589.

General Syllabus for Third-Cycle Studies in Economics for the Degree of Licentiate at Lund University School of Economics and Management

The syllabus for third-cycle studies in Economics was adopted by the Board of the School of Economics and Management on 15 December 2014, revised on 26 January 2017, 19 October 2018 and 3 February 2020. See also *Regulations for third-cycle studies at the School of Economics and Management*, reg. no STYR 2018/1589.

The revised General Syllabus applies to postgraduate students admitted after June 1, 2020.

Third-cycle studies are offered to the extent that available resources allow.

1. Description of third-cycle subject area

Economics is a social science subject which analyzes and studies the behavior and economic links at the microeconomic and macroeconomic level with the help of theoretical and empirical tools. The subject focuses on how a society or different elements of a society use its resources and the effects of economic policy measures.

2. Aim of the programme and learning outcomes

The third-cycle programme in Economics aims to provide students with specialised knowledge of Economics, thorough training in research methods and a good understanding of the common research issues and their practical application.

Knowledge and understanding

For a degree of Licentiate, the research student shall:

- knowledge and understanding in the field of research including current specialist knowledge in a limited area of this field as well as specialised knowledge of research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.

Competence and skills

For a degree of Licentiate, the research student shall:

- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake a limited piece of research and other qualified tasks within predetermined time frames in order to contribute to the formation of knowledge as well as to evaluate this work
- demonstrate the ability in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society in general, and
- demonstrate the skills required to participate autonomously in research and development work and to work autonomously in some other qualified capacity.

Judgement and approach

For a degree of Licentiate, the research student shall:

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments of ethical aspects of his or her own research
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

Additionally, the doctoral student shall meet the learning outcomes of the syllabi of the compulsory courses.

3. Admission requirements

An applicant has general eligibility for third-cycle studies if he or she

1. has been awarded a second cycle degree,
2. has completed course requirements of at least 240 higher education credits, including at least 60 second cycle credits, or
3. has acquired the equivalent knowledge in some other way, either in Sweden or abroad (Higher Education Ordinance, Chapter 7 Section 39)

An applicant is eligible to be admitted to the third-cycle programme in Economics if he or she fulfils the general admission requirements, and has documented qualifications worth at least 90 credits in Economics, and an independent project (degree project) worth at least 15 credits in Economics.

4. Admission and selection

Admission to third-cycle studies takes place at least once a year. Advertising of vacancies on a programme shall be carried out in good time so that it achieves the appropriate national and international coverage. The vacancy should also be advertised on the notice board and website of the department.

The head of department decides on the admission of research students, after preparation by a collegial body. Selection among the applicants will be based on the applicant's ability to benefit from the programme. Evaluation of an applicant's ability to benefit from the programme is based primarily on previously demonstrated skills in studies, standardised tests and other relevant circumstances. Particular attention is paid to papers in Economics and to coursework within the methodological core of Economics. The number of second cycle credits achieved is not used as a criterion. Admission without funding is not allowed.

In cases where all other criteria for admission to the programme are equal, applicants of the underrepresented gender and applicants of an underrepresented ethnic background will be given precedence.

Studies must be pursued either at 100% or 50%.

5. Programme structure and content

The third-cycle degree programme comprises courses and thesis work. When a research student is employed on a doctoral studentship and works in the department (maximum 20% of full-time) the study period will be extended accordingly.

At least two supervisors are to be appointed for each research student. All supervisors are to have undergone training for supervision in third-cycle education. The research student's wishes should, as far as possible, be considered when assigning supervisors.

Information regarding the change of supervisor is available in *Procedure for the change of supervisor at the School of Economics and Management*, reg. no STYR 2016/860.

An individual study plan shall be drawn up for each research student, including how the studies are to be carried out and financed. The individual study plan is to be drawn up by the research student in consultation with the supervisors, and shall be approved by the head of department. The plan is to be reviewed at least once a year. If a research student seriously neglects his/her commitments according to the individual study plan his/her entitlement to supervision and other resources may be withdrawn.

The programme consists of 120 credits, divided into a course component of 60 credits and a thesis component of 60 credits. Active participation in seminars is compulsory, for example service as a critical reviewer.

The coursework includes the following compulsory components:

- a) at least 7.5 credits in microeconomic theory;
- b) at least 7.5 credits in macroeconomic theory;
- c) at least 7.5 credits in econometrics;
- d) at least 3 credits in research ethics.

The current course information makes clear which of the courses offered by the department meet the compulsory requirements.

The effective learning of basic theories and methodology normally requires knowledge of mathematics and statistics that exceeds what is required for 90 credits in Economics. It is recommended that students without sufficient knowledge of mathematics and statistics take the courses offered in mathematical methods and statistical methods.

The remaining courses are to be selected from those the department offers to research students.

A research student is entitled to request the assessment of credit transfer for second cycle courses – or courses included in a Master's degree, according to the previous regulations – and third-cycle courses taken at other faculties or higher education institutions, in Sweden or abroad. This applies primarily to courses equivalent to the compulsory components of the programme. The assessment is to be carried out by an examiner appointed by the head of department.

6. Teaching and examination

Teaching on the programme consists of lectures, seminars and supervision. The forms of teaching and assessment may vary between courses; compulsory courses always have a written final exam as the most important part of the assessment procedure. Teaching is in English whenever non-Swedish-speaking students participate.

Research students with teaching duties should attend at least two weeks of the University's teacher training and all research students shall be offered the opportunity to take courses in teaching and learning in higher education.

The licentiate thesis comprises 60 credits. It can be designed either as a monograph or as a compilation thesis consisting of a collection of articles.

Further information regarding the thesis, public defence and the examiner is available in *Regulations for third-cycle studies at the School of Economics and Management*, reg. no STYR 2018/1589.