



Course syllabus

Faculty Board of Business, Economics and Design
School of Business and Economics

2NA02E Economics II, 30 högskolepoäng
Economics II, 30 credits

Main field of study

Economics

Subject Group

Economics

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G2E

Date of Ratification

Approved by the Board of the School of Business and Economics 2009-12-18

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2010

Prerequisites

In order to be admitted to the full-semester course the student is required to have 30 higher education credits in successfully completed studies in Economics at university level.

In order to attend the Independent Project (Degree Project) the student is required to have a minimum of 60 higher education credits at the start of the semester.

Thus the participants are assumed to be well acquainted with and able to make use of the fundamental concepts, theories and analytical tools of modern macro- and microeconomics.

Expected learning outcomes

Module 1: Mathematical Economics, 4 higher education credits (optional course)

After the module students should have:

- Basic knowledge of mathematical methods
- Knowledge of mathematical application in economics
- The ability to use mathematical methods applied on economic problems

Module 2: Environmental Economics, 7,5 higher education credits (optional course)

The student is expected to have:

- A better understanding of how to , from an economic perspective, analyse and understand environmental problems and their origins
- An enhanced knowledge about economic measures against environmental problems
- An increased ability to critically analyse and evaluate economic measures in relation to different types of environmental problems and pollution
- A better understanding about the role of property rights in the economic system and especially in relation to environmental problems
- An increased knowledge about valuation and estimation of values related to the environment
- A better understanding about economics in relation to renewable and delectable resources
- A deeper understanding about the scientific discussion about the view of environmental problems, their origins and measures against them
- An enhanced knowledge in and analysis of different views of sustainable development

Module 3: Econometrics II, 7,5 higher education credits (optional course)

After the module the student should be able to:

- Apply statistical methods, ordinary least squares methods, on economic relationship
- Apply standardized diagnostic test and make corrections to the econometric model
- Use discrete choice models and models for categorical variables

Module 4: Intermediate Macroeconomics, 7,5 higher education credits (optional course)

The student is expected to have:

- An understanding of and be able to apply economics theory to long run trends and short run fluctuations in the economy
- An increased ability to use macroeconomic concepts, theories and methods in order to analyze economic policies
- An increased ability to understand and analyze the current macro related policy debate

Module 5: Socio-Economics, 7,5 higher education credits (optional course)

The student is expected to have:

- A further enlargement and a deepening of their knowledge and understanding of socio-economic theories and research methods.
- A further strengthening of their ability to understand and critically assess contemporary research in socio-economics as regards the appropriateness of methods applied and relevance and importance of the results reported.
- Knowledge of the main discrepancies and transformations in the architecture of the European welfare, employment and productive systems.
- An enhanced understanding of the intricate relationship between the productive, employment, industrial relations and social protection systems.
- Knowledge of the consequences and policy responses of major challenges, such as globalization and demographic changes, on the sustainability of our welfare state systems

Module 6: Development Economics, 7,5 higher education credits (optional course)

The student is expected to have:

- A further enlargement and a deepening of their knowledge and understanding of

economic theories and research methods.

- A further strengthening of their ability to understand and critically assess contemporary research in economics as regards the appropriateness of methods applied and relevance and importance of the results reported.
- Ability to analyse the process of socioeconomic development in developing countries.
- Ability to analyse economic and social policies for developing countries with focus on growth, trade liberalization, poverty reduction, migration, structural changes and population growth

Module 7: Independent Project (Degree Project) 15 higher education credits (optional course)

After the module the student should be able to:

- Treat a topic within economics
- Have a deeper theoretical knowledge about the topic
- Independently formulate a research question
- Use suitable methods to answer the research question
- Independently analyze data and draw conclusions from the analysis
- In written and orally form distribute the analysis and conclusions in a correct fashion
- Find relevant references for a specific topic
- Critically discuss research reports

Content

The full-semester course in Economics II consists of the following modules:

Students who feel that they need to refresh their mathematical skills are recommended to follow the course Mathematical Economics (module 1).

Module 1: Mathematical Economics, 4 higher education credits

This module focuses on analysis of functions of one or more variables with an emphasis on optimization with and without single or multiple constraints. Each lecture will be applied in nature with a focus on problem solving.

Optional modules

During the first half of the semester the students should choose two of three reading modules in modules 2-4.

Module 2: Environmental Economics and Resource Allocation, 7.5 higher education credits

This is a reading module concentrating on the economic analysis of environmental conditions and problems. Special attention is given to the *raison d'être* of policy interventions aiming at influencing environmental conditions and the use of natural resource policies and to the corresponding problems of choosing between alternative policy measures and institutional arrangements. This means, among other things, the critical study of existing methodologies and tools for the economic valuation of environmental conditions and natural resources. The course will also involve comparisons between countries or groups of countries as regards the policies pursued and the experience gained.

Module 3: Econometrics II, 7,5 higher education credits

The focus in this module is on regression analysis using the ordinary least squares method, but it also include estimation methods useful when we have categorical variables such as yes and no answers or when we have small, medium and large as answers. The course contains empirical exercises where students should learn to apply and interpret the models.

Module 4: Intermediate Macroeconomics, 7.5 higher education credits

The aim of the module is to deepen the understanding of macro-economic theory in general.

The course focuses on the analysis of growth theory and stabilization theory in an open economy settings. Based on a deeper theoretical knowledge, the module will prepare students for making critical analyses of studies that use macroeconomic theories as their theoretical framework.

Optional modules

The student can then choose between two alternatives. One possibility is to complete the full-semester course during the second half of the semester by writing a Thesis, 15 Swedish Higher Education Credits (module 7). The other possibility is to participate in the reading modules, module 5 and 6.

Module 5: Socio-Economics, 7.5 higher education credits

As an emerging meta-discipline, socio-economics starts with the assumption that economics cannot be considered as an autonomous system, but is embedded within a societal and institutional context that contains values/norms, power relations, and social networks. The main objective of this course is to enhance our understanding of the intricate relationship between the productive, employment, industrial relations and social protection systems and to assess the major transformations that have occurred in these systems during the last decades.

Module 6: Development Economics, 7.5 higher education credits

This is a reading course mostly related to the development in the third world. The course will cover fundamental problems faced by developing countries including income distribution, poverty and growth.

Module 7: Independent Project (Degree project), 15 higher education credits

In this module the student is required to write, individually or together with one or two other students, an independent project (degree project). The independent project has to be presented and defended at a seminar. The student is also required to be active at seminars on independent projects written by other participants.

The subject of the independent project (aims to be fulfilled, tasks to be solved, etc.) is decided by the student and his or her examiner and tutor. The writing of the independent project should involve the application of concepts, theories and methods studied in the reading courses.

Type of Instruction**Module 1: Mathematical Economics, 4 higher education credits**

Lectures and exercises.

Module 2: Environmental Economics, 7,5 higher education credits, optional course

Lectures and seminars

Module 3: Econometrics II, 7,5 higher education credits, optional course

Lectures and exercises.

Module 4: Intermediate Macroeconomics, 7,5 higher education credits, optional course

Lectures, exercises and seminars.

Module 5: Socio-Economics, 7,5 higher education credits, optional course

Lectures and Seminars. Seminars are compulsory

Module 6: Development Economics, 7,5 higher education credits, optional course

Lectures and Seminars. Seminars are compulsory

Module 7: Independent Project (Degree Project), 15 higher education credits,
optional course

Lectures, tutoring, seminars and discussions. Active participation in seminars is mandatory.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).

Besides the demand for active participation in the course, the students will be given oral examinations individually written examination, individually written examination case, a successfully completed paper presented and defended in a seminar. Students are also requested to successfully complete all exercises.

A retest will be offered a few weeks after the original written test for students who have not successfully passed the original test. At least 5 tests will be offered.

The grades are Pass with Distinction (80% -100%), Pass (60% -79%) or Failure (0% - 59%).

Students at Linnæus University can, at request, receive their grades in ECTS credits, according to the ECTS-scale. This request should be made in connection to the introduction of the course.

Course Evaluation

A written course evaluation is performed and compiled into a report to be kept in the university school archives. The result and any measures taken are communicated to the course co-ordinator and presented to the students participating the next time the course is offered.

Credit Overlap

Each course module has a corresponding single-subject course with which there is a 100% credit overlap.

The corresponding single-subject courses are:

1NA001, 2NA008, 2NA007, 2NA006, 2NA010, 2NA009

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Module 1: Mathematical Economics

See syllabus for 1NA001.

Module 2: Environmental Economics

See syllabus for 2NA008.

Module 3: Econometrics

See syllabus for 2NA007.

Module 4: Intermediate Macroeconomics

See syllabus for 2NA006.

Module 5: Socio-Economics

See syllabus for 2NA010.

Module 6: Development Economics

See syllabus for 2NA009.