



## Course syllabus

School of Business and Economics

Department of Economics and Statistics

4NA052 Tillämpad nationalekonomisk metod, 15 högskolepoäng

Applied Economic Methodology, 15 credits

### **Main field of study**

Economics

### **Subject Group**

Economics

### **Level of classification**

Second Level

### **Progression**

A1N

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved by School of Business and Economics 2015-06-26

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2015

### **Prerequisites**

Economics 90 credits including a Degree Project of at least 15 credits.

## Objectives

After completing this course the student is expected to be able to:

- problematize the potential and the limitations of different theoretical and empirical research set ups in economics
- problematise economic problems, using theoretical knowledge and knowledge of existing research within practical economics studies
- apply knowledge of theories and existing research within economics studies when assessing and discussing other's research
- write advanced academic texts, including formulation of research questions and appropriate methodological research set ups

## Content

The course consists of following parts:

- introduction to the research process and research methods in Economics
- introduction to different scientific basic assumptions and different research perspectives
- introduction to the research process within economics
- formulation of a research question based on theory of science and methods in economics
- discussion and evaluation of theses
- different ways of writing conclusions and results
- research ethics
- identify strengths and weaknesses of theoretical and empirical studies

## Type of Instruction

The teaching consists of tutoring, lectures and seminars. Mandatory parts are stated in the schedule.

## Examination

The course is assessed with the grades A, B, C, D, E, Fx or F.

The course is assessed by assignments, paper and seminars with oral presentation of the paper.

The grade A constitutes the highest grade on the scale and the remaining grades follow in descending order where the grade E is the lowest grade on the scale that will result in a pass. The grade F means that the student's performance is assessed as fail.

After each regular examination there will be at least one new examination in close proximity to the date the results of the regular exam were posted. A minimum of five occasions for written exams will be offered in relation to the syllabus to which the student was accepted. Usually three occasions per academic year are offered. Students that fail reports can complement after instructions from the examiner to obtain a pass grade.

Grading criteria for the A–F scale are communicated in writing to the student by the start of the course/module at the latest, as well as how grades on separate elements of examination are weighed to a final course grade.

## Course Evaluation

During the implementation of the course or in close connection to the course a course evaluation is to be carried out. Result and analysis of the course evaluation is to be presented as feedback both to the students who have completed the course and to the students who are to participate on the course the next time it is offered. The course evaluation is to be carried out anonymously.

## Credit Overlap

The course cannot be included in a degree along with the following course/courses of which the content fully, or partly, corresponds to the content of this course: The course overlaps 4NA010 with 100 %.

## Required Reading and Additional Study Material

### Required reading

Boumans, M., Davis, J. B. & Blaug, M., (2010). *Economic Methodology: Understanding Economics as a Science*. PALGRAVE MACMILLAN. 209 pages.

Chaplin, A. & Schaffer, A. (eds.) (2010). *The Foundations of Positive and Normative Economics – A Handbook*. Oxford University Press. 416 pages.

Ethridge, D. (2004). *Research Methodology in Applied Economics*. Blackwell Publishing. 242 pages.

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Selected parts from selected Ph.D dissertations are used for the final paper and seminars. Selection will be made together with the lecturer.