



Course syllabus

School of Business and Economics
Department of Economics and Statistics

4NA083 Avancerad nationalekonomisk metod, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Advanced Economic Methodology, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

Economics

Subject

Economics

Level

Second cycle

Progression

A1F

Date of Ratification

Approved 2020-06-24.

Revised 2026-05-11. Prerequisites and standard texts.

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2027.

Prerequisites

Specific entry requirements:

Independent project in economics comprising at least 15 credits at a minimum of level G2E (Bachelor).

English 6/English level 2, or the equivalent.

Objectives

After completing this course the student should be able to:

- problematize the potential and the limitations of different theoretical and empirical research setups in economics
- Critically problematise economic challenges and apply existing theories and

research in economics to empirical examples.

- write academic texts, including formulation of concrete research questions and appropriate methodological research setups

Content

The course covers the following areas and concepts:

- review, reflection and discussion of the theory of science background of advanced research methods that have been used in influential research
- discussion about how research questions can be formulated taking into account appropriate research methods
- evaluation of research texts from a theory of science and methodological perspective
- study, reflect and discuss research methods which have been used by researchers who have been awarded the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences in the 2000s
- reflections and discussions about various aspects of research ethics

Type of Instruction

The teaching consists of tutoring, lectures and seminars.

Examination

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

The course is examined through an individual written examination 4.5 credits and two individual written papers 1.5 credits each that are orally presented at seminars.

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.

Resit examination is offered in accordance with Linnaeus University's Local regulations for courses and examination at the first- and second-cycle levels.

In the event that a student with a disability is entitled to special study support, the examiner will decide on adapted or alternative examination arrangements.

Course Evaluation

A course evaluation should be conducted during the course or in connection with its conclusion. The results and analysis of the completed course evaluation should be promptly communicated to students who have completed the course. Students participating in the next course instance should be informed of the results of the previous course evaluation and any improvements that have been made, no later than at the start of the course.

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: 4NA006, 4NA010, 4NA052 and 4NA073 with 7.5 credits each.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Required reading

Boumans, M., Davis, J. B. & Blaug, M. *Economic Methodology: Understanding Economics as a Science*. Palgrave Macmillan. Last edition. About 210 pages.

A Ph.D dissertation is used for a paper and a seminar. Selection made together with the lecturer. About 200 pages.

Selected papers from Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics Sciences laureates used for a paper and a seminar. Selection made together with the lecturer. About 75 pages.