



Programme syllabus

School of Business and Economics

Entreprenörskapsprogrammet, masterprogram, 120 högskolepoäng

Entrepreneurship, Master Programme, 120 credits

Level

Second Level

Date of Ratification

Approved 2018-06-13

Revised 2018-06-13 by the Faculty Board within the School of Business and Economics

The programme syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2019

Prerequisites

Basic eligibility for second level studies and special eligibility:

- a degree of Bachelor in Business Administration with a minimum of 90 higher education credits in Business Administration or the equivalent
- English B/6 or the equivalent.

Description of Programme

The aim of this two-year master programme is that students should develop the ability to identify, formulate and implement projects together with businesses and local communities. The pedagogical philosophy of the programme is based on problem-based learning, which means that a close interaction with businesses (private sector) as well as organizations in the public and civic sector is emphasized. The programme provides a deepened understanding of, knowledge within and ability to lead and implement projects for development and change within all sectors of society. These together will bring practice and theory together on an advanced level. It is assumed that the student in his/her bachelor has acquired an ability to contribute to business development in businesses or other organizations. This skill is broadened in the master programme to all sectors of society, as well as intersections between sectors, based upon a deepened knowledge of entrepreneurship theory. The programme provides professional skills in project management and the leading of entrepreneurial processes in private and public sector as well as civic society. These skills can be used to start own businesses and/or entrepreneurial work in established organizations and projects. Further, the programme trains student to acquire the ability to analyse project results in order to contribute to development of theory and research and is therefore a good preparation for PhD education.

Objectives

Central degree objectives in accordance with the Higher Education Ordinance

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Master (Two Years) students must

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in their main field of study, including both broad knowledge in the field and substantially deeper knowledge of certain parts of the field, together with deeper insight into current research and development work, and
- demonstrate specialised methodological knowledge in the main field of study.

Skills and abilities

For a Degree of Master (Two Years) students must

- demonstrate an ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and to analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations, even when limited information is available,
- demonstrate an ability to critically, independently and creatively identify and formulate issues and to plan and, using appropriate methods, carry out advanced tasks within specified time limits, so as to contribute to the development of knowledge and to evaluate this work,
- demonstrate an ability to clearly present and discuss their conclusions and the knowledge and argument behind them, in dialogue with different groups, orally and in writing, in national and international contexts, and
- demonstrate the skill required to participate in research and development work or to work independently in other advanced contexts.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Master (Two Years) students must

- demonstrate an ability to make assessments in their main field of study, taking into account relevant scientific, social and ethical aspects, and demonstrate an awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work,
- demonstrate insight into the potential and limitations of science, its role in society and people's responsibility for how it is used, and
- demonstrate an ability to identify their need of further knowledge and to take responsibility for developing their knowledge.

Programme specific objectives

- creatively and critically apply models and theories to interpret complex entrepreneurial processes in all sectors of society
- critically, independently and creatively identify, formulate and plan projects together with businesses and local communities

This is in accordance with the intended learning outcomes set for a masters' degree in the Swedish Higher Education Ordinance and School of Business and Economics' mission.

Content

Organisation

The Programme is placed and taught at the School of Business and Economics. The Programme has a programme coordinator who has overall responsibility for the Programme and who serves as a representative of the Programme and coordinates Programme-related issues. The coordinator is responsible for the Programme's content and development and works actively to maintain good relationships and communication channels. This takes place with the Programme's teaching staff by means of continuous dialogue, with the Programme's students through a programme council, and with trade and industry through collaboration and interaction with relevant stakeholders.

Programme Overview

The first year consists of two courses focusing deepened theoretical knowledge within business development and entrepreneurship and two methodological courses focusing project work and action research. The first methodological course is integrated with the planning and initiation of a larger societal entrepreneurship project. This course is followed by a course on implementation of the project. The last course is a methodological course on how to relate project results to contemporary research in order to contribute to generalized knowledge development. The second year starts with a semester at Linnaeus University or in a foreign country including theoretical courses on and advanced level. The students are offered to locate their study abroad to universities that the School of Business and Economics have a close collaboration with. Further there is a master degree project finishing the programme. All courses are at an advanced level and given in English.

Programme courses

Year 1:

- Business development, 15 credits, A1N, (mandatory),*

The course introduces different theoretical perspectives on entrepreneurship, business development and entrepreneurial processes. The underlying theme is that while the digitalization offers numerous possibilities for development and change, the local and regional context and entrepreneurship still matters.

- Action based methods and application, 15 credits, A1N, (mandatory),*

The aim of the course is to deepen the knowledge and understanding of scientific methodology and action based methods. This methodological course is integrated with the planning and initiation of a societal entrepreneurship project.

- Societal entrepreneurship project, 7.5 credits, A1F, (mandatory),*

The course is focusing on project work and action based methods in the implementation of a development project. The development project is carried out in cooperation with actors within the business, public and civic sectors of the society.

- Scandinavian perspectives on entrepreneurship, 7,5 credits, A1N, (mandatory),*

The course applies theoretical perspectives from contemporary entrepreneurship research to interpret complex entrepreneurial processes. The entrepreneurship concept is from a Scandinavian context widened to include enterprising in all sectors of contemporary society, and in particular, entrepreneurship in the junction between sectors leading to a sustainable society.

- Analysing societal entrepreneurship project, 7,5 credits, A1F, (elective),*

The course focuses on analysing the results from the implementation of the societal entrepreneurship projects based on contemporary entrepreneurship research and thereby contribute to generalized knowledge development in the field.

- Sustainability, entrepreneurship and social change, 7.5 credits, A1N, (elective),*

The course offers advanced theoretical perspectives and application in sustainability, entrepreneurship and social change to dilemmas, challenges and opportunities in the contemporary society.

Alternatively,

- Degree project in Business Administration (master), 15 credits, A1E, (elective)*,

The degree project aims for the students to perform a master thesis within the main field of study Business Administration; independently selecting a relevant topic, conduct thesis work and opposition seminars. Overlaps, and not applicable, with the 30 credits degree project.

Year 2:

- Electives, 30 credits, (elective)

This semester can be studied at a designated partner institution abroad or at the Linnaeus University. The courses need to be of relevance to the programme and they have to be pre-approved by the programme coordinator.

- Business Administration, Degree Project in Entrepreneurship, (Master), 30 credits, A2E (mandatory),*

The degree project aims for the students to perform a full-semester master thesis with specialization in entrepreneurship; independently selecting a relevant topic, conduct advanced thesis work and opposition seminars.

Some of the courses on the Programme are studied together with students from other programmes and single subject courses, and may be taught in another order.

* course in the main field of study Business Administration

A Master's programme of 120 credits must, in accordance with the Higher Education Ordinance, contain at least 60 credits of specialised study in the main field, of which at least 30 credits must consist of a degree project. At least 90 credits should comprise courses at the second cycle in accordance with the local rules (Ref. no. 2014/442–1.1). Courses previously given within the same programme code, EAEP2, can also be included in the programme degree and thus replace courses with equivalent content.

Societal relevance

The degree programme has a clearly defined connection with the community as development projects are carried out in cooperation with actors within the business, public or civic sectors of the society. Projects are implemented and also evaluated from the point of their usefulness for stakeholders involved.

Internationalization

The third semester is designed for the possibility for studies abroad or electives studies at the Linnaeus University. The students are encouraged to study at universities where the School of Business and Economics have developed educational exchange.

Scope of Programme

An integrated diversity perspective is essential for the programme as a whole and an understanding of diversity issues is central for understanding business and societal development. Themes related to diversity are targeted based upon course literature, seminars and lectures. Diversity includes a range of issues such as gender, integration and sustainability in working and business life. Special attention is given to the reproductive dimension of existing structural assumptions of inequality. Social, ethnic and cultural diversity are central criteria for the entrepreneurship programme. Students from all kinds of backgrounds are encouraged to take part in a free sharing of thinking, which is of substantial importance for learning. The programme is educating for professional work in a global labour market incl. sustainable development, equal terms, a widened knowledge perspective and entrepreneurial approach, as well as other perspectives.

Quality Development

Continuous evaluation and improvement of the Programme takes place, among other things, through the University's course evaluations, where the results are handled by the programme coordinator and programme council and feedback is then provided to the instructors and archived. Programme students actively participate in the follow-up and development of the programme through the programme council and through student representatives in the faculty-wide Education Committee. All programmes of the School of Business and Economics also undergo a quality analysis based on the standards of the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), and quality evaluations are conducted for all main subjects through the national quality assurance system with the help of UKÄ (Swedish Higher Education Authority). The School of Business and Economics' faculty-wide quality plan requires, among other things, that a recurrent programme analysis is conducted and that course evaluations are monitored. As part of the annual university-wide survey, the Linnaeus Barometer, all final-year students are asked about their experiences of their education in terms of different quality aspects.

Degree Certificate

After completing their studies which correspond to the requirements stated in the Higher Education Ordinance and in Linnaeus University's local Degree Ordinance, students may apply for a degree. Students, who have completed the Entrepreneurship Programme, can obtain the following degree:

Students from first cycle with a Bachelor of Science in Business and Economics, main field of study: Business Administration, may obtain the following degree:

Master of Science (120 credits) in Business and Economics with specialisation in Entrepreneurship
(Main field of study: Business Administration)

Students with another qualifying degree than the afore-mentioned may obtain the following degree:

Master of Science (120 credits) with specialisation in Entrepreneurship
(Main field of study: Business Administration)

The degree certificate is bilingual (Swedish/English). A Diploma Supplement (English) will be provided along with the degree certificate.

Students who have completed one year of the Programme's two years and meet the requirements of a master's degree (60 credits) may obtain the following degree:

Master of Science (60 credits) with specialization in Entrepreneurship
(Main field of study: Business Administration)

Other Information

In order to be admitted to the courses on the programme, the specific entry requirements stated in each course syllabus must be fulfilled by the start of the course.