



Programme syllabus

School of Business and Economics

Entreprenörskap, hållbarhet och samhällsförändring, masterprogram,
120 högskolepoäng

Entrepreneurship, Sustainability and Social Change, Master
Programme, 120 credits

Level

Second Level

Date of Ratification

Approved by School of Business and Economics 2019-06-12

Revised 2023-09-13

The programme syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2024

Prerequisites

Basic eligibility for second level studies and special eligibility:

- a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration, in an another humanities or social sciences main field of study or the equivalent
- English 6 or the equivalent.

Description of Programme

After completing the degree studies, students will have developed knowledge and skills to be able to, independently, critically and on a scientific basis, understand entrepreneurial processes in all sectors of society: business, public sector and civil society. The programme combines the development of the students' independent scientific thinking on entrepreneurship and social change with developing knowledge about and skills in entrepreneurship practices. An in-depth understanding that can be used to drive or facilitate entrepreneurship through starting your own business, developing local communities or working with development processes in established companies, government agencies and non-profit organisations. With a particular focus on the role of entrepreneurship in economic, social and ecological sustainability for the individual, organisations and society. This makes the programme suitable for those who want to contribute to social development through their own business, as well as those aiming for a career as a researcher, project manager, administrator or strategist with public authorities, administrations or other organisations that are funded by grants. The programme also prepares students for third-cycle studies.

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
- Integrate knowledge about and critically discuss the links between entrepreneurship, social change and sustainability.

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 academic year consists of subject courses (45 credits) in the primary field of business administration on the subject of entrepreneurship and methodological courses that focuses on qualitative and quantitative methods and application. The second academic year starts with a semester of optional courses (30 credits) at Linnaeus University, another Swedish university or abroad. The student chooses to either broaden or deepen their knowledge with courses at both undergraduate and graduate level. The student has the opportunity to study abroad at universities, with which the School of Economics collaborates. The programme ends with a project for a Masters degree (30 credits). All compulsory courses are at graduate level and are held in English. Courses within the programme can, in agreement with the programme coordinator, be exchanged. The programme coordinator will then be responsible for assessing whether the programme objectives still can be met.

Programme courses

Year 1:

- Entrepreneurship as process and practice, 7.5 credits, A1N, (mandatory), *

The course addresses different theoretical perspectives on entrepreneurship as a process, practice and method across all sectors of society.

- Entrepreneurship and context, 7.5 credits, A1N (mandatory), *

The course addresses how the context creates opportunities and limitations for entrepreneurship. Different dimensions of context are addressed and special attention is given to the debate on the role of local and regional context.

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

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

- Entrepreneurship and social change , 7.5 credits , A1N (mandatory), *

The course provides in-depth knowledge of different perspectives on the role of entrepreneurship in society and its links to social change. Critical perspectives are introduced and discussed, as well as, opportunities and limitations of entrepreneurship as a tool for social change.

- Contemporary entrepreneurship research, 15 credits, A1F, (mandatory), *

The course aims to provide knowledge of central theoretical and methodological perspectives in contemporary entrepreneurship research, its historical development and different research traditions, as well as skills in the critical analysis of research and reflection on contemporary academic research in the field.

- Qualitative Methods and Applications, 7.5 credits, A1F, (elective), *

The objectives of the course is to critically discuss and apply qualitative and postpositivist methods within social sciences and business administration.

- Quantitative Methods and Applications, 7.5 credits, A1F, (elective), *

The objectives of the course is to critically discuss and apply quantitative methods within social sciences and business administration.

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. The course syllabus overlaps, and not applicable, with the course syllabus for the 30 credits degree project.

Year 2:

- Optional courses 30 credits, max 15 credits undergraduate level and min 15 credits graduate level

This semester can be studied at a selected partner institution abroad, at Linnaeus University or another Swedish university. The student chooses to either broaden or deepen their knowledge with courses at both undergraduate and graduate level. Courses are selected in consultation with, and the intended course workload is approved by the Programme Coordinator. The eligibility requirements and degree requirements provided by The Higher Education Ordinance and The Local System of Qualification at Linnaeus University must be met.

- 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 a degree project of at least 30 credits. Courses previously given within the same programme code, EAES2, can also be included in the programme degree and thus replace courses with equivalent content. For supplemental information, see the local Degree Ordinance.

Societal relevance

The programme has a clear connection to the society, partly through the entrepreneurial

projects that are carried out with actors from businesses, public sector or civil society, and partly through the co-creation board with representatives from all three sectors that are involved in the development of the programme. The programme also provides the students with specialized knowledge about the links between entrepreneurship, sustainability and social change.

Internationalization

The third semester is designed with the possibility of studying abroad. The students are encouraged to study at universities where the School of Business and Economics have developed educational exchange. Students come from many parts of the world, which creates a genuinely international learning environment.

Sustainable social development

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 university-wide survey, the Linnaeus Barometer, 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 Entrepreneurship, Sustainability and Social Change, master programme, can obtain the following degree: .

Students that have a qualifying first cycle degree with Business Administration as the main field of study may obtain the following degree:

Master of Science (120 credits) in Business and Economics with specialisation in Entrepreneurship, Sustainability and Social Change (Main field of study: Business

Administration)

Ekonomie masterexamen inriktning mot entreprenörskap, hållbarhet och samhällsförändring (Huvudområde: Företagsekonomi)

Students with any qualifying first cycle degree may obtain the following degree:

Master of Science (120 credits) with specialisation in Entrepreneurship, Sustainability and Social Change (Main field of study: Business Administration)

Filosofie masterexamen inriktning mot entreprenörskap, hållbarhet och samhällsförändring (Huvudområde: Företagsekonomi)

Students that have a qualifying first cycle degree with Business Administration as the main field of study, 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) in Business and Economics with specialization in Entrepreneurship, Sustainability and Social Change (Main field of study: Business Administration)

Ekonomie magisterexamen med inriktning mot entreprenörskap, hållbarhet och samhällsförändring (Huvudområde: Företagsekonomi)

Students with any other qualifying first cycle degree may obtain the following degree: , 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, Sustainability and Social Change (Main field of study: Business Administration)

Filosofie magisterexamen med inriktning mot entreprenörskap, hållbarhet och samhällsförändring (Huvudområde: Företagsekonomi)

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

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. Should deviations be found between the Swedish and English version of this programme syllabus, the Swedish one is superior.