



## Programme syllabus

School of Business and Economics

Innovation genom ekonomi, teknik och design - inriktning företagsekonomi, masterprogram, 120 högskolepoäng

Innovation through Business, Engineering and Design - Specialisation Business, Master Programme, 120 credits

### **Level**

Second Level

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved by School of Business and Economics 2019-09-11

Revised 2023-09-13

The programme syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2024

### **Prerequisites**

General entry requirements for second-cycle studies and specific entry requirements:

- A minimum of 90 credits within the main field of study Business Administration (including a degree project of at least 15 credits) or the equivalent
- English 6 or the equivalent

### **Description of Programme**

The purpose of the programme is to enable students with a degree in economics, technology or design to together develop their ability to initiate, lead and promote innovation processes focusing on sustainable solutions to a diversity of problems. The student gains advanced knowledge within their own main field of study, at the same time as there is collaboration and exchange with the other subjects. In the programme, the student also develops their knowledge of research and investigation methods used in the relevant subjects.

The overall pedagogical approach taken in the programme is to perform innovation processes through interdisciplinary collaborative projects. Students from different faculties and with different academic backgrounds work together with the aim of learning to identify problems from different perspectives and develop solutions requiring different kinds of knowledge and skills.

In the programme, the students gain knowledge and skills regarding the innovation concept, innovation processes, project work and project management, product development, and business and system development, in collaboration with businesses and organisations. As a result, the students get a key role in the creation of future

societies, and come into direct contact with professional work within their subject field.

Three faculties participate in the programme: the Faculty of Technology, the School of Business and Economics, and the Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

## Objectives

General degree objectives in accordance with the Higher Education Ordinance

### *Knowledge and understanding*

For a Degree of Master of Science (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including both broad knowledge of the field and a considerable degree of specialised knowledge in certain areas of the field as well as insight into current research and development work, and
- demonstrate specialised methodological knowledge in the main field of study.

### *Competence and skills*

For a Degree of Master of Science (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations even with limited information
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues critically, autonomously and creatively as well as to plan and, using appropriate methods, undertake advanced tasks within predetermined time frames and so contribute to the formation of knowledge as well as the ability to evaluate this work
- demonstrate the ability in speech and writing both nationally and internationally to report clearly and discuss his or her conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences, and
- demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development work or autonomous employment in some other qualified capacity.

### *Judgement and approach*

For a Degree of Master of Science (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the main field of study informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues and also to demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

### *Programme specific objectives*

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of all of the main fields of study in the programme, and the synergy, thereof
- lead and participate in interdisciplinary projects.

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

## Content

### *Programme overview*

The programme is located at the School of Business and Economics and offered in collaboration with the Faculty of Technology and the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. The programme comprises 90 credits of compulsory courses, and 30 credits of courses of the student's own choice, within the main field of study.

There are three programme coordinators for the programme – one from each faculty. The programme coordinators have the overall responsibility for the coordination and coherence of the programme, for continuous quality development, and for the development of courses and the programme as a whole. They have a continuous dialogue with the teachers on the programme, and they coordinate collaboration with businesses and organisations nationally as well as internationally.

The programme starts out from the realisation that resources are limited, and that we need to find ways to meet people's needs without risking future generations. The complexity within human societies puts high demands on our ability to understand what needs people have in different parts of the world. At the same time, sustainable development requires a critical approach to how people, businesses and organisations intend to meet these needs. An interdisciplinary innovation process opens up for different perspectives in the process, and results in a holistic view of problems as well as solutions, from a local as well as a global point of view. Through this programme, the students will be able to participate in the innovation process together with different clients, and together identify problems and find sustainable solutions. As a result, the students develop their interdisciplinary insight and understanding – something that is further enhanced by the programme's reflective course components. The students' own future knowledge and research development is also stimulated.

#### **First term:**

The first term comprises two courses: **Local Innovation** and **Innovation Methods and Tools**.

The course **Local Innovation** is project based and provides knowledge and understanding of innovation and the innovation process in theory and practice. The students conduct innovation projects through an interdisciplinary process, in which each competence plays an active role. The course is divided into modules, and the students learn to work and collaborate in all parts of the innovation process, from the different subjects' perspectives. In addition to this, the course also deals with professional skill and the importance of teamwork in the realisation of innovation processes.

The course **Innovation Methods and Tools** gives an overview of scientific and artistic methods, and complements the project course in that the student gets to reflect upon and evaluate the methods that are used to create knowledge or solutions, how these methods are used, and how obtained information is analysed.

#### **Second term:**

The second term includes two courses: **Global Innovation** and **Innovation Processes and Research Methods**.

The course **Global Innovation** discusses academic aspects of, as well as professional practice within the three main fields of study. The course is project based and focuses on identifying and formulating complex problems from a system perspective, realising an innovation process in collaboration with businesses or organisations, and formulating strategies for implementation of ideas through interdisciplinary work. The course also discusses professional skill in depth.

The course **Innovation Processes and Research Methods** links scientific and artistic methods with research. The course also discusses the process involved in working with projects in depth.

#### ***Third term***

During the third term, students specialise by taking optional courses within the main field of study. This can also include studies abroad.

#### ***Fourth term***

In the fourth term the student conducts a degree project, in which they may collaborate across disciplines.

#### *Courses in the programme*

##### Year 1

Local innovation, 22.5 credits, level A1N (mandatory)\*

Innovation Methods and Tools, 7.5 credits, level A1F (mandatory)\*

Global Innovation, 22.5 credits, level A1F (mandatory)\*

Innovation Processes and Research Methods, 7.5 credits, level A1F (mandatory)\*

##### Year 2

Optional courses in the main field of study Business Administration, 30 credits,\*

Degree Project in Business Administration (Master), 15 credits, level A1E (elective)\*, #

Business Administration with specialization in Innovation, Degree Project (Master), 30 credits, level A2E (mandatory)\*

The courses in the programme can in agreement with the program coordinator, be exchanged for corresponding courses within the programme's focus. In this case, the programme coordinator verifies that the programme's degree and programme goals are still met.

\*Within the programme's main field of study, Business Administration

# See more under Other information

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, EAIN2, 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*

In the programme, the student conducts a project in collaboration with businesses and organisations. The student is also given further opportunities to contribute to society in different ways.

#### *Internationalisation*

Exchange studies within the programme's main field of study may take place in the third term of the programme. Exchange studies are planned in consultation with the programme coordinator. The student is invited to choose from the full range of agreements that Linnaeus University has with foreign institutions of higher education. The fourth term's independent project can also be conducted partly abroad.

#### *Sustainable social development*

In the programme, questions of sustainable development, gender and diversity are continuously brought up and discussed. The concept of sustainability is defined as one including environmental, financial, social, ethical and cultural aspects as well as aspects to do with the safety and wellbeing of mankind. At the core of the programme is the development of theoretical knowledge for the analysis of innovations, and on upon the student's core disciplines in relation to societal needs and how societies have defined and dealt with said needs. Development work within the programme shall focus on people's involvement, knowledge and understanding. The students practise their ability to critically review possibilities and limitations, in order to promote the development of an equal and sustainable society. This work shall be supported by the methods used in the program.

Through collaboration with both national and international businesses and organisations, knowledge and understanding is promoted from a local as well as a global perspective. The international perspective is furthermore strengthened when students from many different countries participate in the programme.

### 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 students 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 completed studies on the programme and when completed studies correspond to the requirements listed in the degree order in the Higher Education Ordinance and in the local degree order at Linnaeus University, students can apply for a degree. Students who have completed the programme *Innovation through Business, Engineering and Design - Specialisation Business*, can obtain the following degree:

*Master of Science in Business and Economics (120 credits) with specialisation in Innovation through Business, Engineering and Design*  
*Main field of study: Business Administration*

The degree certificate is bilingual (English/Swedish). Along with the degree certificate, students will also receive a diploma supplement (English).

### Other Information

The programme contains mandatory elements such as study visits, laboratory work, and fieldwork. Such elements may result in certain expenses; these are paid for by the students themselves. Digital equipment is also required.

In order to be admitted to the courses on the programme the specific 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.

# The programme also provides the opportunity to obtain a Master degree in Business and Economics (60 credits). For further information, please read the local degree ordinance.