



13 April 2007

Reg No EHL 2007/67

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT

Lund University

Department of Economics

English translation of the Swedish original, which remains the only authentic original.

Syllabus for the Third Cycle Programme for the degree of Doctor in Economics at Lund University

The syllabus for Economics was adopted by the Board of the School of Economics and Management on 13 April 2007. See also Instructions for Third Cycle Studies at the School of Economics and Management, adopted on 13 April 2007, Reg No EHL 2007/66.

Third cycle studies are offered to the extent that available resources allow.

1 Learning outcomes

The objective of the third cycle programme for the degree of Doctor in Economics is to give the student deeper knowledge of Economics, a thorough training in research methods and insight into the important problems of economic research and its practical application.

For a degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Economics doctoral students must have attained the following outcomes:

- On completion of his/her studies the student shall be an independent researcher in Economics, with the ability to plan and conduct research in independent projects.
- In his/her dissertation the student shall further specialise in theories, methods and/or applications in such a way that he/she shall obtain a profound understanding of and contribute to research in his/her chosen area of specialisation.
- The student shall demonstrate skills in the application of the core tools of modern Economics, so that he/she can formulate, analyse and solve the practical problems that he/she is likely to encounter as a professional economist.
- The student shall be able to independently and critically evaluate arguments – raised within or outside Economics – used in economic research and its application.
- The student shall be able to convey basic knowledge of Economics, as well as knowledge acquired in third cycle studies, to experts and laypeople.
- On completion of his/her studies the student shall be able to further develop within his/her area of research and to develop research skills in other areas within Economics through further independent study.

The student shall also attain the objectives stated in the syllabi for the compulsory courses.

2 Admission requirements

An applicant has basic eligibility for third cycle studies if he or she:

1. has been awarded a second cycle degree,
2. has completed course requirements of at least 240 higher education credits, including at least 60 credits at second cycle level, or
3. has acquired the equivalent knowledge in some other way, either in Sweden or abroad (Higher Education Ordinance, Chapter 7, Section 39)

An applicant is eligible to be admitted to the third cycle degree programme in Economics if he or she fulfils the basic eligibility requirements, and has documented qualifications worth at least 90 credits in Economics, and an independent project (degree project) worth at least 15 credits in Economics.

Students admitted according to the previous provisions have basic eligibility if they have graduated from a degree programme comprising at least 120 credits according to the previous provisions, or if they have the equivalent knowledge. An applicant is also eligible if he or she has acquired the equivalent knowledge in some other way, either in Sweden or abroad.

3 Admission and selection

Admission to third cycle studies takes place once a year. Advertising of vacancies on a programme shall be carried out so that it achieves the appropriate national and international coverage. The vacancy should also be advertised on the notice board and website of the department.

The Head of Department decides upon the admission of doctoral students. Selection among the applicants will be based on the applicant's ability to benefit from the programme. Evaluation of an applicant's ability to benefit from the programme is based primarily on previously demonstrated skills in studies, standardised tests, and other relevant skills. Particular attention is paid to thesis work in Economics and to coursework within the methodological core of Economics. The number of second cycle credits achieved is not used as a criterion. Admission without funding is not allowed.

In cases where all other criteria for admission to the programme are equal, applicants of the underrepresented gender and applicants of an underrepresented ethnic background will be given precedence.

Before the beginning their studies doctoral students shall register and specify their proposed level of activity. Studies must be pursued either as full-time or as half-time studies.

4 Programme information

The third cycle degree programme comprises courses and dissertation work. The degree programme is intended for a study period of a maximum of four years. When a research student is employed as a doctoral and works in the department (maximum 20% of full-time) the study period will be extended accordingly.

At least two supervisors are to be appointed for each doctoral student, of which at least one should be qualified as an associate professor. The postgraduate student's wishes should, as far as possible, be considered when assigning supervisors.

An individual study plan will be drawn up for each doctoral student, including how the studies are to be carried out, as well as their financing. The individual study plan is drawn up by the doctoral student in collaboration with the supervisor, and shall be approved by the Head of Department. The plan is to be revised at least once a year. If a doctoral student seriously neglects his/her commitments according to the individual study plan his/her entitlement to supervision and other resources may be withdrawn.

The programme consists of 240 higher education credits; coursework comprises 105 credits and the dissertation comprises the remaining 135 credits. Active participation in seminars is compulsory. This may, for example, entail preparing a topic for discussion. While working on his/her dissertation, the student is expected to present chapters at departmental seminars. The student's complete dissertation is discussed and evaluated at a final seminar.

The coursework includes the following compulsory components:

- a) at least 15 credits of coursework in Microeconomics Theory;
- b) at least 15 credits of coursework in Macroeconomics Theory;
- c) at least 15 credits of coursework in Econometrics.

The current course information makes clear which of the courses offered by the department meet the compulsory requirements. Courses corresponding to 7.5 credits of Macroeconomics Theory and/or 7.5 credits of Econometrics may be replaced by other courses if this is deemed appropriate due to the orientation of the student's research (e.g. Health Economics or History of Economic Thought). This must be stated in the student's individual study plan before the subject of the dissertation is decided.

The effective learning of basic theories and methodology normally requires knowledge of Mathematics and Statistics that exceeds that necessary for 90 credits in Economics. It is recommended that students without sufficient knowledge of Mathematics and Statistics take the courses offered in Mathematical Methods and Statistical Methods.

The remaining courses may be selected from those the department offers to doctoral students.

A doctoral student is entitled to request the assessment and accreditation of second cycle courses and third cycle courses taken at other faculties or universities, in Sweden or abroad. This also applies to courses equivalent to the compulsory part of the programme. The assessment should be carried out by an examiner appointed by the Head of Department.

5 Teaching and examination

Teaching on the third cycle programme for the degree of Doctor is carried out through lectures, seminars and supervision. The methods of teaching and examination may vary between courses; compulsory courses always have a written final examination as the most important part of the assessment procedure. Teaching is in English whenever non-Swedish-speaking students participate.

All doctoral students should have the opportunity to participate in the university's teacher training course, and those involved in teaching shall participate in at least two weeks of the university's course in teaching and learning in higher education.

The doctoral dissertation comprises 135 credits. It may either be a coherent scholarly work – a monograph – or a compilation dissertation consisting of a collection of articles with a summary.

Further information regarding the dissertation, public defence and the grading committee is given in *Instructions for third cycle studies at the School of Economics and Management*, reg no EHL 2007/66.