



UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG  
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, ECONOMICS AND LAW

# Programme Syllabus for Master of Science in Economics

120 higher education credits

*Second Cycle*

*Established by the Faculty Board of the School of Business, Economics and Law, University of Gothenburg, on November 14, 2006, last revised on October 27, 2016. (G 2016/518)*

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## 1. Decision and Guidelines

The study programme for the Master of Science in Economics, 120 higher education credits, hec, (equals 120 ECTS credits), was established by the Faculty Board of the School of Business, Economics and Law on November 14, 2006 and last revised on October 27, 2016. The programme syllabus applies as from autumn term of 2017.

The programme is managed by the Graduate School at the School of Business, Economics and Law, University of Gothenburg.

## 2. Programme Intent

The programme prepares students for advanced work within the field of economics, both in the private and public sectors. In addition, the programme provides a basis for those who want to enter a doctoral programme.

## 3. Entrance Requirement

### General Entrance Requirements

To meet the entry requirements for master's level (second cycle or graduate) studies, students must:

- have been awarded a Bachelor's degree (equivalent to a Swedish Kandidatexamen) from an internationally recognized university
- be able to demonstrate proficiency in English equivalent to English studies at upper secondary school (high school) in Sweden, called English 6/English Course B.

For more information about General Entrance Requirements see [www.universityadmissions.se](http://www.universityadmissions.se) (English) and [www.antagning.se](http://www.antagning.se) (Swedish).

### Programme Specific Entrance Requirements

A) The applicant's university education must include a minimum of 60 hec in Economics and 7.5 hec in Econometrics/Regression Analysis or equivalent. In addition the education must include a minimum of 15 hec in Statistics, or 7.5 hec in Statistics and 7.5 hec in quantitative methods and/or Mathematics. The credits in Econometrics/Regression Analysis or equivalent may be included in the general statistics requirement or in addition to this.

Or

B) The applicant's university education must include at least a Bachelor's Degree (i.e. the equivalent of 180 hec) in Mathematics or in an Engineering programme with a quantitative or mathematical orientation.

The admission requirements listed above apply for admission to the programme. For continued studies within the programme individual courses might have specific requirements, as provided in each course syllabus.

#### **4. Degree Certificate and Degree Title**

Upon completion (receiving a minimum grade of Pass) of all the courses and the Master Degree Project, and fulfilment of the requirements given in the syllabus, students will receive a Degree of Master of Science (120 credits) with a Major in Economics and Masterexamen (120 hp), Huvudområde: Nationalekonomi

#### **5. Programme Learning Outcomes**

Second cycle education shall according to the Swedish Higher Education Act (HEA) build on knowledge that students acquire in first cycle education or corresponding knowledge (HEA, Ch. 1:9) The general objectives for a Master (120 credits) are stated in the Higher Education Ordinance.

The overall learning objectives are to develop students'

1. ability to make independent and critical assessments,
2. ability to identify and solve problems,
3. skills in searching and evaluating scientific information in economics,
4. skills in exchanging information with people without any specific knowledge in the field of economics,
5. skills in integrating and using the knowledge obtained from the programme
6. skills in understanding and analysing complex problems,
7. necessary qualifications for a professional career in economics or continued studies in a PhD programme in economics.

After successfully completing the programme students shall be able to

1. apply insights from economic theory in order to understand observed behaviour and policies. Moreover, they should understand the theories sufficiently well in order to understand their limitations. More specifically, they shall be able to:
  - a. Analyze consumer and firm behavior at various institutions such as the market and the household
2. apply econometric and statistical techniques appropriate for decision making in business and government. More specifically, they shall be able to:
  - a. Identify, assess and gather the necessary information.
  - b. Employ relevant quantitative methods and interpret the results.
  - c. Understand what we can learn from the results, as well as understand what we cannot learn, i.e. the limitations of the analysis.

3. effectively communicate the results of their economic analysis. More specifically, they shall be able to:
- Write clear, concise and well-disposed reports, including the presentation of quantitative analyses.
  - Present the results orally in a clear and convincing way.
  - Participate constructively in discussions.

## 6. Programme Disposition and Content

### Year 1

Autumn Term		Spring Term	
Period 1+2	Period 3+4	Period 1+2	Period 3+4
Mathematics 7,5 hec core	Graduate Econometrics 7,5 hec core	Elective course 7,5 hec	Elective course 7,5 hec
Advanced Microeconomic Theory 7,5 hec core	Advanced Macroeconomic Theory 7,5 hec core	Elective course 7,5 hec	Elective course 7,5 hec

### Year 2

Autumn Term		Spring Term	
Period 1+2	Period 3+4	Period 1+2	Period 3+4
Elective course 7,5 hec	Elective course 7,5 hec	Master Degree Project core	
Elective course 7,5 hec	Elective course* 7,5 hec		

\* While Applied Econometrics is not a core course, it is highly recommended to all students who are not taking part in an international exchange programme during the period to take the course.

The programme covers four academic terms of full-time study (120 hec) including three terms of courses, core and elective, 90 hec, and one term of Master Degree Project (thesis writing - 30 hec).

Students must accumulate a total of 120 hec, of which at least 90 hec are courses in economics. Since the core courses in Economics are 60 hec the students have to take at least

30 hec elective courses in Economics.

Each term is divided into four periods, and each course is 7,5 hec, except where noted.

#### Core courses

Mathematics 7,5 hec

Advanced Microeconomic Theory 7,5 hec Graduate

Econometrics 7,5 hec

Advanced Macroeconomic Theory 7,5 hec

Master Degree Project 7,5 hec

#### Elective courses

The Graduate School offers a number of electives within economics, business administration, law, economic history and economic geography. The elective courses offered may vary yearly depending upon faculty changes and number of registered students.

### **7. Guaranteed admission**

Students admitted to the programme have guaranteed admission to all core courses within the programme given that the course requirements are fulfilled.

### **8. Tuition and Examination**

The language of instruction is English.

Group reports, individual term papers and individually written exams will be assessed and graded individually.

Students who have made five unsuccessful attempts to pass an exam have lost the possibility of obtaining the Master of Science Degree.

### **9. Programme Evaluation**

All courses in the programme will be anonymously evaluated by the students upon completion. The results of the evaluations will be communicated to the students and will function as a guide for the development of the courses and of the programme.