
General syllabus for the doctoral programme in the subject of:

APPLIED ECONOMICS

Valid from 2024-10-07

Department(s) to which the syllabus applies
ECONOMICS

Subject code: NJTIEK01

The objectives and design of courses in this subject may vary between faculties (see point 3. Miscellaneous).

Applied economics uses economic theory, econometrics and other economic methods to study societal problems from an economic perspective. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to, economic actors and their interactions and how policy is used to manage these interactions to achieve societal goals and effective use of resources. Focus areas at SLU are characterised by their use of renewable resources and include agriculture and food production, forestry and aquatic environments, or non-renewable natural resources such as minerals. Other examples include applications linked to the green transition (bioeconomy) and may involve energy, waste or consumption patterns. Research may include the production of natural resources, their environments and the consumption of the products from these environments. Generally, research at SLU applies economic theories and economic studies in comprehensive interdisciplinary contexts.

Regulations for third-cycle (doctoral) education at SLU

Third-cycle (doctoral) education is regulated by the Higher Education Ordinance (SFS 1993:100) and the Ordinance for the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SFS 1993:221).

In addition, SLU has regulations for the following:

- recruitment and admission, in Admission regulations for third-cycle (doctoral) education (SLU-ID: SLU.ua.2018.1.1.1-930)
- joint programmes leading to a double or joint degree
- supervision
- scope and content of programmes
- planning and follow-up of programmes
- procedure when a course or programme is unsatisfactory
- examination
- degreeS.

These can be found in Guidelines for third-cycle (doctoral) education (reg. no SLU ua.2015.1.1.1-2467).

A general syllabus must indicate the following: the main content of the programme, specific entry requirements and any other regulations required. All general syllabuses must be approved by the faculty board.

The programme is carried out in a way that allows doctoral students to meet the qualitative targets for third-cycle courses and programmes specified in the *Higher Education Ordinance's Annex 2 – Qualifications Ordinance*:

Qualitative targets according to the Qualifications Ordinance: Degree of Doctor

Outcomes

For the Degree of Doctor the third-cycle student shall

Knowledge and understanding

- *demonstrate broad knowledge and systematic understanding of the research field as well as advanced and up-to-date specialised knowledge in a limited area of this field, and*
- *demonstrate familiarity with research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.*

Competence and skills

- *demonstrate the capacity for scholarly analysis and synthesis as well to review and assess new and complex phenomena, issues and situations autonomously and critically;*
- *demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake research and other qualified tasks within predetermined time frames and to review and evaluate such work;*
- *demonstrate through a dissertation the ability to make a significant contribution to the formation of knowledge through his or her own research;*
- *demonstrate the ability in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings authoritatively in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society in general;*
- *demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge and*
- *demonstrate the capacity to contribute to social development and support the learning of others both through research and education and in some other qualified professional capacity.*

Judgement and approach

- *demonstrate intellectual autonomy and disciplinary rectitude as well as the ability to make assessments of research ethics, and*
- *demonstrate specialised insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used.*

Outcomes**For a Degree of Licentiate the third-cycle student shall***Knowledge and understanding*

- *demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the field of research including current specialist knowledge in a limited area of this field as well as specialised knowledge of research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.*

Competence and skills

- *demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake a limited piece of research and other qualified tasks within predetermined time frames in order to contribute to the formation of knowledge as well as to evaluate this work;*
- *demonstrate the ability in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society in general, and*
- *demonstrate the proficiency required to participate autonomously in research and development work and to work autonomously in some other qualified capacity.*

Judgement and approach

- *demonstrate the ability to make assessments of ethical aspects of his or her own research;*
- *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*

1. Programme content and scope

The programme has two main components: courses and the doctoral thesis. The programme leading to the degree of doctor comprises 240 credits. The programme leading to the degree of licentiate comprises 120 credits. These are the equivalent of four and two years of full-time studies respectively.

Research

The thesis is a compilation of articles. A monograph may be written as an exception. The thesis is defended at a public defence.

The articles included in the thesis must have been published in high quality scientific journals, or be eligible for publication in such journals without requiring significant editing.

If the thesis contains articles with several authors, the doctoral student's contribution must be clearly presented in the thesis.

Scope

The programme leading to the degree of doctor must include 90 credits from courses and a thesis that includes three to five articles and a summary (introductory chapter).

The programme leading to the degree of licentiate must include 45 credits from courses and a thesis that includes one to two articles and a summary (introductory chapter).

The introductory chapter synthesises the research articles and places them in a greater international context.

Courses

For the degree of doctor, a minimum of 90 course credits must be taken.

The following are compulsory:

- A minimum of 30 credits from a combination of doctoral courses in microeconomics, macroeconomics, mathematics and econometrics.

- A minimum of 15 credits from a combination of doctoral courses in i) philosophy of science and ethics, ii) sustainability science related to natural resources such as agriculture, forest management, food and the use of natural resources, and iii) pedagogics.

The remaining credits can be chosen based on the doctoral student's profile and often include advanced training in applied economics within the doctoral student's research domain. Courses may also comprise credits from other areas of academia relevant to the individual doctoral student.

For the degree of licentiate, a minimum of 45 course credits must be taken. These comprise the compulsory courses for doctoral students.

2. Specific entry requirements

The following specific entry requirements apply:

For the subject of applied economics, the applicant must have the equivalent knowledge to a minimum of 60 credits in economics subject areas, of which 15 must be at second cycle (Master's) level. The applicant should also have studied questions related natural resources, such as agriculture, forest management or other natural resources at first or second cycle level.

3. Miscellaneous

Each faculty offering the third-cycle subject can choose to specify specializations or requirements in addition to the general syllabus. These requirements must be documented in an annex.