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Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

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General syllabus for the doctoral programme in the subject of: ECONOMICS

The subject of economics concerns interactions between economic agents, including how these interactions are linked to the properties and development of economies, and how they can be managed through policy interventions to achieve societal objectives. Focus is often on the allocation of scarce resources - such as capital, labour, and goods and services - between alternative uses. At SLU there is an emphasis on economic research in which biological natural resources play a central role. This research includes agricultural economics, international trade, environmental economics, natural resource economics, forest economics, and society's transition to a bio-based economy.

1. Programme content and scope

The programme has two main components: courses and the doctoral thesis.

Thesis work

During the period of study, the doctoral student shall carry out independent research, which is presented in a compilation thesis written in English.

The papers included in the thesis must have been published in a scientific journal of good quality or be of such quality that they may be published in such a journal without extensive prior editing. These journals should be available in one of the databases Web of Science, Web of Knowledge or Scopus.

In cases where the papers included in the thesis have multiple authors, the doctoral student's contribution shall be clearly specified in the thesis.

Utskrifter av det här dokumentet är kopior och måste alltid stämmas av mot originalet.
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Courses

The courses required for the Degree of Doctor must include:

-compulsory courses in mathematical methods, econometrics, micro and macro economics corresponding to a total of 60 credits with 15 credits in each subject area;

-elective general and subject-specific courses corresponding to 30 credits. This may include courses in teaching and learning in higher education.
The compulsory courses for a licentiate degree must comprise 55 credits and include courses in mathematical methods, econometrics, micro and macro economics and elective courses, both general and subject-specific. This can include a limited number of credits from courses in teaching and learning in higher education. According to the current rules for doctoral education (Regulations and forms for doctoral education.).

), all doctoral and licentiate degrees at SLU must include credit awarding courses of philosophy of science and research ethics at PhD-level. These courses should also cover rules on cheating and plagiarism.

2. Specific entry requirements

The following specific entry requirements apply:

For the subject of economics, the applicant must have the equivalent knowledge to a minimum of 90 credits in relevant subject areas. This must include a degree project, and at least 30 credits must be at the advanced level.

3. Overall rules for 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).

The local governing documents that regulate doctoral education at SLU level can be found on the page Regulations and forms for doctoral education.

The programme is organised 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 – System of Qualifications (see appendix 1).

4. Miscellaneous

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

5. Appendixes

Appendix 1. Higher Education Ordinance Annex 2 – System of Qualifications.

Appendix 1. Higher Education Ordinance (SFS 1993:100)
Annex 2 – System of Qualifications.

Degree of Doctor [Doktorsexamen]

Scope

A Degree of Doctor is awarded after the third-cycle student has completed a study programme of 240 credits in a subject in which third-cycle teaching is offered.

Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

For the Degree of Doctor the third-cycle student shall
- 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

For the Degree of Doctor the third-cycle student shall
- demonstrate the capacity for scholarly analysis and synthesis as well as 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

For the Degree of Doctor the third-cycle student shall
- 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.

Research thesis (doctoral thesis)

For the Degree of Doctor the third-cycle student shall have been awarded a pass grade for a research thesis (doctoral thesis) of at least 120 credits.

Miscellaneous

Specific requirements determined by each higher education institution itself within the parameters of the requirements laid down in this qualification descriptor shall also apply for a Degree of Doctor with a defined specialisation.

Degree of Licentiate [Licentiatexamen]

Scope

A Degree of Licentiate is awarded
- either after a third-cycle student has completed a study programme of at least 120 credits in a subject in which third-cycle teaching is offered,
- or after a third-cycle student has completed one part comprising at least 120 credits of a study programme intended to conclude with the award of a PhD, if a higher education institution decides that a Degree of Licentiate of this kind may be awarded at the institution.

Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding
For a Degree of Licentiate the third-cycle student shall
- 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
For a Degree of Licentiate the third-cycle student shall
- 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 skills required to participate autonomously in research and development work and to work autonomously in some other qualified capacity.

Judgement and approach
For a Degree of Licentiate the third-cycle student shall
- 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 and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

Thesis
For a Degree of Licentiate the third-cycle student shall have been awarded a pass grade for a research thesis of at least 60 credits.

Miscellaneous

Specific requirements determined by each higher education institution itself within the parameters of the requirements laid down in this qualification descriptor shall also apply for a Degree of Licentiate with a defined specialisation.

Appendix 2. Faculty of forest sciences specific requirements for the subject economics.

Scope of third-cycle education

A programme aiming at a doctoral degree must comprise at least 90 credits of courses, together with a thesis consisting of at least 3 papers and a summarising chapter (kappa), or at least 60 credits of courses and a thesis of at least 4 papers and a summarising chapter (kappa). A programme aiming at a licentiate degree must comprise at least 45 credits of courses, together with a thesis consisting of at least 1 paper and a summarising chapter (kappa), or at least 30 credits of courses and a thesis of at least 2 papers and a summarising chapter (kappa). For a monograph, the third-cycle programme must consist of at least 90 credits of courses, together with a thesis corresponding to 150 credits (2.5 years) or at least 60 credits of courses and a thesis corresponding to at least 180 credits (3 years).

Courses

The supervisor and doctoral student together agree on the courses to include in the programme. The supervisor has the final say as to how many courses, and which ones, may be included. In economics, students are expected to have or acquire knowledge corresponding to the following: Microeconomics (at least 7.5 credits), mathematics for business and economics (at least 7.5 credits), econometrics (at least 7.5 credits) natural resource economics (at least 7.5 credits) and teaching in higher education (at least 3 credits). In special cases, courses can be offered as self-study courses or project work.

Seminars, conferences and guest lectures

Doctoral students are expected to actively take part in seminars, guest lectures, conferences and activities at the department. They are also expected to submit conference papers and, with the help of their supervisor, actively apply for grants to take part in international scientific conferences.