



Faculty of Economic Sciences, Communication, and IT

Programme Study Plan

Business Administration and Economics

Programme Code:	SGEEK
Programme Title:	Study Programme in Business Administration and Economics
ECTS Credits:	180
Approval:	The programme study plan was approved by the Faculty Board of Economic Sciences, Communication, and IT on 1 November 2007 and is valid from the autumn term of 2007.
Language of Instruction:	Swedish
Degree Level:	Bachelor's
Degree Type:	General
Prerequisites:	General admission requirements plus upper secondary school level English B, Mathematics C, and Social Science A.

General Information

The programme provides broad and attractive qualifications for business and economy. It also prepares for further studies at master's level in business administration or economics depending on the student's choice of specialisation.

Aims

For a Bachelor's Degree the student should demonstrate the knowledge and skills required for qualified and independent work in the field of business and economy.

Knowledge and understanding

For a Bachelor's degree, students should

- demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical bases and applicable methods in the field of business and economy, familiarity with current research and development work, and in-depth knowledge of the theory and methods of some part of the main field of study,
- demonstrate broad knowledge of business administration, economics, law, and statistics, as well as specialised knowledge in business administration or economics, and
- demonstrate knowledge of national and international rules and regulations, especially EU regulations.

Skills and abilities

For a Bachelor's degree, students should be able to

- collect and critically interpret information and critically discuss economic phenomena, issues and situations even with limited information,
- independently identify, formulate and solve economic problems as well as plan and carry out tasks using adequate methods within specified time limits,
- give an account of and discuss information, problems and solutions in dialogue with different groups, nationally and internationally, orally and in writing,
- demonstrate ability to develop their learning in order to quickly grasp new problems,
- seek, gather and interpret research results in business administration or economics and understand how these relate to existing theories and methods applied, and
- demonstrate the skills required for independent work in the chosen area of the business field.

Attitude and assessment abilities

For a Bachelor's degree, students should

- demonstrate ability to make assessment in the main field of study with due regard to relevant scientific, societal and ethical aspects such as human rights issues,
- demonstrate awareness of the potentials and limitations of the economic sciences, their role in society, and accountability for how they are used,
- demonstrate insight into the importance and exercise of leadership, and
- demonstrate ability to identify their need for further knowledge and to assume responsibility for their own development.

Independent project (degree project)

For a Bachelor's degree, students should have completed an independent project (degree project) of at least 15 ECTS cr. within the framework of course requirements.

Programme Structure

In the course of study, students gradually choose different pathways. The first choice, made at the close of the third term after the mandatory courses, is the choice of business administration or economics as the major subject. After that, students can choose different specialisations in their major. Instruction is in the form of lectures, exercises, case studies, and seminars with oral and written presentations.

Programme Curriculum

Term 1	Business Administration A 30 ECTS cr.
Term 2	Economics A 30 ECTS cr.
Term 3	Introduction to Commercial Law 15 ECTS cr + Statistics 15 ECTS cr.
Term 4	Business Administration B 30 ECTS cr.or Economics B 30 ECTS cr.
Term 5	Electives 30 ECTS cr.
Term 6	Business Administration C 30 ECTS cr. (incl. 15 ECTS cr degree project) or Economics C 30 ECTS cr. (incl. 15 ECTS cr degree project)

Term 1

Business Administration A 30 ECTS credits

The course is divided into four modules:

Financial accounting 7.5 ECTS cr. deals with the role and function of accounting in a corporation, continuous accounting, the laws and praxis governing the valuation of assets and debts, and how to draw up annual reports and financial statements.

Introductory marketing 7.5 ECTS cr. deals with basic concepts and theories in the marketing field, primarily from a corporate perspective: The tools of market information systems, market research, segmentation and positioning, pricing, forms of distribution and company offers in a rapidly changing and global society Applying analytical tools are practised in projects.

Organisation and ethics 7.5 ECTS cr. deals with the development of organisation theory, based on seminal works. Different principles of leadership and organisation, gender theory, postmodern organisation and critical theory are treated. There is also a component centring on basic moral philosophical schools and on the importance of ethics and its role in the assessments of different situations.

Financial management 7.5 ECTS cr. Students acquire skills in collecting, processing and analysing economic information in companies. Methods of estimating profitability of products and investments using basic calculation models are treated. The budget is presented as an instrument of planning, coordination and control. Also recent methods and management theories are discussed.

Term 2

Economics A 30 ECTS cr.

The course is divided into three modules:

Microeconomic theory 12 ECTS cr. This module is based upon the fundamental principles of economics: balancing costs and benefits, the concept of alternative costs, and the principle of diminishing returns. How consumer behaviour affects the demand for goods and services is studied in the light of the aforementioned principles. How the producer's production and cost structure influences the supply of goods and services is also covered. This module discusses how the public sector can influence a market through taxes and regulations as well as how taxes and regulations can be used as a means of increasing welfare in terms of information problems, environmental problems, and in cases of limited competition such as monopoly and oligopoly.

Macroeconomic theory 10 ECTS cr. Macroeconomic theory explains aggregate quantities such as total production and its utilisation, inflation, unemployment, national budget, and balance of trade. Macroeconomic theory also shows how these quantities relate to one another. The course demonstrates both the possibilities and limits of economic policy. Economic policy is divided into fiscal policy which directly impacts real quantities in the economy, and monetary policy which influences the economy primarily through interest rates. Different exchange rate systems are presented, partly according to their construction, and partly in terms of the various prerequisites of economic policy within different exchange rate systems. Another area covered in the course differentiates between long-term growth and short-term fluctuations relating to long-term trends.

Applied Theory Course 10.5 ECTS cr. At least one applied theory course is normally offered each semester. The content of the course or courses can vary from semester to semester. In this course, the students conduct in-depth studies of a specific subject area and apply the theoretical tools acquired in previous modules. The course also presents the theoretical concepts pertaining to the specific field studied. The course is divided into a section on theory (4.5 credits) and an independent project, to be carried out in groups (3 credits). A list of applied theory courses on offer is presented at the start of every semester.

Term 3

Introduction to Commercial Law 15 ECTS cr.

The course offers a survey of our legal system and its divisions, including EU law. Specific juridical methodology is presented and basic legal terms discussed. The main focus of the course is civil law. Special attention is given to agreement law, the law relating to the sale of goods, property law, and association law. The course also addresses competition and market law, labour law, credit law, economic family law, security law, insolvency law, procedural law, taxation law, and laws relating to claims of indemnification. The course also covers administrative law with a focus on the legislation of public administration and relevant legislation on public rights to access and secrecy.

Statistics 15 ECTS cr.

The course deals with the basic methods of compiling and describing collected data, data analysis and elementary probability law as the basis for applying statistical methods to generalise from limited information. The relation between two variables is treated in a section on regression analysis.

Term 4

Studies in the major business administration or economics

Business Administration B 30 ECTS cr. or

Economics B 30 ECTS cr.

Term 5

Elective courses 30 ECTS cr.

Term 6

Further studies in the major business administration or economics

Business Administration C 30 ECTS cr. or ***Economics C 30 ECTS cr.*** including Degree Project 15 ECTS cr

Degree Title

– *Degree of Bachelor of Science in Business and Economics*
Major: Business Administration

or

– *Degree of Bachelor of Science in Business and Economics*
Major: Economics

Credit Transfer

According to the Higher Education Ordinance (Ch. 6, § 12-14), students may transfer credits from previously completed university courses subject to approval. Transfer of credits for a full course, or other credits, is subject to approval by the Office for Student Affairs on behalf of the Rector. Transfer of credits from a course module is subject to approval by the course examiner.

Additional Information

Students' eligibility to move on to the next level is subject to the approval of the examiner in conjunction with the programme course coordinators.

The local regulations for undergraduate studies at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.