



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Economics
Syllabus

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty Board of Arts and Social Sciences on 9 April 2013, and is valid from the Autumn semester of 2013 at Karlstad University.

Course Code: NEAD26

Behavioural Economics, 7.5 ECTS Credits
(Beteendekonomi, 7.5 Swedish credit points)

Degree Level: Master

Progressive Specialisation: A1N (Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements)

Language of Instruction

The language of instruction is English if non-Swedish speaking students or teachers participate in the course. If not, instruction is in Swedish.

Prerequisites

Economics 90 ECTS cr, including at least 30 ECTS cr at G2F-level or higher. Upper Secondary English 6, English B, or equivalent.

Major Field of Study

NAA (Economics)

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to

- describe and explain how cognitive difficulties, moral stances, social circumstances and emotional reactions affect traditional economic models and theories,
- explain expected utility and prospect theory,
- give an account of and reflect on the problem with the rationality assumption,
- estimate how different assumptions of preference in intertemporal choice affect consumption choices, and
- explain and reflect on the relation between utility, happiness and welfare from an economic perspective and
- give an account of how to design and complete an economic experiment.

Content and Form of Instruction

The course covers the following components

- preferences, values and attitudes,
- risk and uncertainty theories such as the expected utility and prospect theory
- mental accounting
- intertemporal choice
- fairness and social preferences
- the rationality assumption
- experimental economy
- happiness research
- conducting an economic experiment

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on a written exam and written and orally presented hand-in assignments.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course assessment is based on student views and experiences as reported in written course evaluations and/or group discussions. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of the measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional Information

Students who enrolled before 1 July 2007 will complete their studies in accordance with the requirements of the earlier admission. Upon completion students may request degree and course certificates to be issued under the current ordinance if they meet its requirements.

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor's and Master's levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.

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