



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Economics

Syllabus

Economics for Political Science Majors

Course Code:	NEGA07
Course Title:	Economics for Political Science Majors <i>Nationalekonomi för Pol. Kand</i>
Credits:	30
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements (G1N)

Major Field of Study:
NAA (Economics)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2016-09-05, and is valid from the Spring semester 2017 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

General admission requirements plus either

- field-specific eligibility A5 (upper secondary school level Mathematics 2a or 2b or 2c, Civics 1b or 1a1 + 1a2) or
- field-specific eligibility 5 (upper secondary school level Mathematics B, Civics A).
- at least 15 ECTS cr completed for the course SVGA50 Political Science A, 30 ECTS cr, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

Module 1 Economic Theory and Policy, 22.5 ECTS cr

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge of basic economic theories and place them in their ideational and historical context,
- demonstrate deeper understanding of the functioning of markets and the efficiency of national economies, on the basis of pricing theories and different market models,
- discuss welfare theory on the basis of the responsibility areas of the individual and the public sector,
- reflect on the means and ends of economic policy on the basis of theories and ideologies,
- give an account of macroeconomic connections for long-term and short-term development, and
- use models to analyse the effects of economic-political events.

Module 2 Globalisation, Economic Growth and Development, 7.5 ECTS cr

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge of the forces behind international trade and the economic gain involved in such trade,
- explain how international trade affects the income distribution between labour and capital,
- give an account of how different political trade measures affect prices and income distribution in

society,

- give an account of the causes of protectionism from the perspective of political veto groups,
- give an account of how relief can help poor countries to develop and increase the standard of living, and
- analyse a country's economic policy and potential for economic development.

Content

Module 1 Economic Theory and Policy

The microeconomy section starts with a survey of the history of economic ideas as a background to the study of pricing theory. This is followed by a study of market forms from absolute competition to monopoly. Economic efficiency and the fallibility of the market serve as a background to further discussion of the so called welfare theory.

The macroeconomy section starts with national budgets, followed by market rates of interest and exchange rates. One explanatory model of economic cycles is analysed and stabilisation policy and macroeconomic schools are presented and discussed. In conclusion, an survey of Swedish stabilisation policy in the last decades is presented.

Module 2 Globalisation, Economic Growth and Development

The first part of the module deals with the forces behind international trade and the gains of international division of labour. The classic and neoclassic as well as the modern theories are treated. The causes and consequences of international factor mobility, of capital and work, are discussed. Trade policy interventions are treated and the reasons for protectionism are discussed. The second part of the module links trade policy to development economy. The reasons for some countries being poor and others rich are discussed as well as the policy and economy of relief.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on the following components:

Module 1: three written exams and hand-in group assignment presented in a mandatory seminar.

Module 2: a written exam, and a hand-in group assignment presented in a mandatory seminar.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course. The grade Distinction is awarded to students who have earned this grade for at least 15 of the 30 ECTS course credits.

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 evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

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