



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Economics
Syllabus

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty Board of Arts and Social Sciences on 4 June 2013 , and is valid from the Spring semester of 2014 at Karlstad University.

Course Code: NEGB21

Labour economics, 7.5 ECTS Credits

(Arbetsmarknadens ekonomi, 7.5 Swedish credit points)

Degree Level: Bachelor

Progressive Specialisation: G1F (First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements)

Language of Instruction

The language of instruction is usually Swedish unless students or teachers are non-Swedish speakers, in which case the course is taught in English.

Prerequisites

Economics, 30 ECTS credits

Major Field of Study

NAA (Economics)

Learning Outcomes

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

- apply economic theory to current problems relating to the labour market,
- give an account of labour market institutions in Sweden and their emergence, and discuss their pros and cons,
- discuss how the labour market operated in Sweden compared with other countries,
- critically analyse the development regarding labour market institutions, labour market policy, employment rate, wages and income differences, and
- search for, interpret and discuss official statistics, surveys, and research reports in the field of labour economics.

Content and Form of Instruction

The course covers the theory and practice of:

- The supply and demand for labour
- Wage formation: compensating wage differences, human capital and efficiency wages and labour market organisations
- Education and the labour market
- Gender differences in the labour market
- Migration, integration and discrimination in the labour market
- Causes and consequences of unemployment
- Active and passive labour market policy

In the empirical part of the course, special emphasis is given to conditions and institutions of the Swedish labour market, and comparisons are made with conditions and institutions in other countries.

Instruction is in the form of lectures and student presentations of selected course literature in the seminars.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on a written exam and a written summary of an article/essay chosen in consultation with the teacher and presented orally in seminars.

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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