



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Economics

Syllabus

Labour economics

Course Code:	NEGC25
Course Title:	Labour economics <i>Arbetsmarknadens ekonomi</i>
Credits:	7.5
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G2F)

Major Field of Study:
NAA (Economics)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2023-11-14, and is valid from the Spring semester 2024 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Economics, 60 ECTS credits, including at least 30 ECTS credits at the G1F level or higher, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

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

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

6. critically analyse research reports in the field of labour economics.

Content

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, there is a special emphasis on the conditions and institutions of the Swedish labour market, and comparisons are made with conditions and institutions in other countries.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Learning outcomes 1-6 are assessed based on a written exam and an individual written hand-in assignment.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

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 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.