



GENERAL SYLLABUS FOR THIRD-CYCLE PROGRAMMES

IN

ECONOMICS

FFN chair 2019-01-24

1 Subject Area

Economics concerns the study of how society can be organized to make efficient use of scarce resources. Research focuses on the economics of natural resources, energy and the environment. It applies microeconomic theories to study the behaviour of energy and raw materials markets as well as how these markets are influenced by public policy.

2 Programme curriculum

Education at post-graduate level in Economics that concludes with a licentiate degree comprises a total of two years' full time study (120 higher education credits) and consists of a study programme that gives 52.5-60 higher education credits and a licentiate thesis that gives 60-67.5 higher education credits.

Education at post-graduate level in Economics that concludes with a doctorate comprises a total of four years' full time study (240 higher education credits) and consists of a study programme that gives 105-120 higher education credits and a doctoral thesis that gives 120-135 higher education credits.

Post-graduate students from Luleå also attend post-graduate course arranged at other universities in Sweden and abroad, which guarantees a high level of quality. Another element in assuring the quality of the education is that leading specialists in the subject are regularly engaged for teaching and examining on courses arranged in Luleå. An International Advisory Board oversees the Economics Research Program, consisting of three Professors of Economics from institutions of higher education outside Sweden who visit Luleå once a year to review the post-graduates' ongoing projects.

The education in Economics given at Luleå University of Technology is directly in line with the strategic build-up of knowledge that the University Council has prioritised within the multidisciplinary field of sustainable resource use. In this way students of Economics at Luleå University of Technology will always gain an insight early on their studies in other academic disciplines in the research fields of both the social sciences and technology/science and training in interacting with post-graduate students and researchers in these fields.

The competencies of both the principal supervisor and the assistant supervisor shall be broad and complement each other so that the subject's empirical application and theoretical and methodological grounding are represented.

An individual study programme is drawn up for every postgraduate student (according to a fixed [model](#)) where the study programme is specified in detail. The individual study programme is followed up at least once a year by the post-graduate student and his/her supervisor and is then approved by the head of department, as delegated by the Vice-Chancellor.

3 Eligibility and selection

3.1 General eligibility requirements

As specified in [Section 39 of Chapter 7 of the Higher Education Ordinance](#) and the local guidelines laid down in the [Admission Rules for Post-graduate Education at Luleå University of Technology](#).

3.2 Specific eligibility requirements

Degree of Master with Economics at advanced level as main subject/main area.

Very good skills in oral and written communication in English.

3.3 Selection

As specified in [Section 41 of Chapter 7 of the Higher Education Ordinance](#) and the local guidelines laid down in the [Admission Rules for Post-graduate Education at Luleå University of Technology](#).

For selection for education at post-graduate level in Economics the following selection criteria apply:

- Knowledge relevant to the project in question
- The quality of the applicant's degree project
- Knowledge of the Economics subject is an additional qualification.

4 Examinations included in the education

The education consists of courses and an academic thesis. Examinations included in post-graduate programmes are graded Pass or Fail. Course and licentiate thesis grades are decided by specially appointed teachers ([examiners](#)). Doctoral thesis grades are decided by a specially appointed [grading committee](#).

4.1 Courses

The courses that constitute the post-graduate education are stated in the individual study programme. Students are often given individual tuition in those courses that are highly specialised within the framework of the thesis subject while the more general courses in Economics and those that have a more methodological and theoretical thrust are normally taught in groups and often in cooperation with other universities in Sweden and in other countries, not least Umeå University. At least 30 higher education credits for the licentiate

degree and at least 60 higher education credits for the doctorate must be so –called core courses, i.e. courses in microeconomics, macroeconomics, mathematics and econometrics.

Examinations are both written and oral. Goal attainment is tested by means of the form of examination specified in the syllabus.

4.1.1 Recognition of prior studies

As specified in the local guidelines laid down in the [Admission Rules for Post-graduate Education at Luleå University of Technology](#).

4.2 Academic thesis

An academic project in the form of a dissertation/thesis in Economics shall be presented as a homogenous, cohesive academic work (monograph) or a brief summary – comprehensive summary – of academic essays (composite thesis) that the post-graduate student has written alone or together with another person or persons. In the composite thesis, the post-graduate student must have written at least one of the academic essays alone.

Thesis manuscripts shall be presented at one or more research seminars or be subjected to equivalent review through the agency of the department.

The licentiate thesis is defended orally at a public [licentiate seminar](#) and is graded Pass or Fail. When the thesis is graded both the content of the thesis and the defence of the thesis are taken into consideration. The grade of a licentiate thesis is decided by an [examiner](#) appointed by the head of department.

The doctoral thesis is defended orally at a public [disputation](#) and is graded Pass or Fail. When the thesis is graded both the content of the thesis and the defence of the thesis are taken into consideration. The grade of a doctoral thesis is decided by a [grading committee](#) that is appointed for each thesis.

5 Degree

In Economics, a post-graduate student who has been admitted to a doctorate has the possibility to take a licentiate degree after completing a portion giving at least 120 higher education credits of the education that will be concluded with a doctorate.

5.1 Degree objectives

As specified in the [degree description](#) (Higher Education Ordinance, Appendix 2 – Degree Ordinance. See also the appendix below.

For a licentiate degree in Economics the following objectives also apply: After completion of his/her studies for a licentiate degree in Economics, the student shall:

- Have a deep knowledge of those issues that his/her thesis subject concerns and the ability to see what practical application his/her research findings may have.
- Have a broad knowledge of the Economics discipline in both the Swedish and international academic environments.



For a doctorate in Economics the following objectives apply in addition to those stated for the licentiate degree: After completion of his/her studies for a doctorate in Economics, the student shall:

- Have considerably advanced knowledge in his/her thesis subject and broadened general knowledge of national and international research in Economics.
- Have good ability in writing his/her own applications for various kinds of development and research funding.

5.2 Degree title

A post-graduate student who takes a licentiate degree in Economics receives the degree title of Licentiate of Philosophy.

A post-graduate student who takes a doctorate in Economics normally receives the degree title of Doctor of Philosophy.

Requests for another degree title are made according to established [guidelines](#).

6 Entry into effect and interim regulations

The previous general curriculum will cease to apply for third-cycle students who are admitted to studies at third-cycle level after 2019-01-24.

If agreed between the third-cycle student and the supervisor, the new general syllabus (ref. LTU-114-2019) may be used as a steering document for a previously admitted third-cycle student. It must then be documented in the third-cycle student's individual study plan which general syllabus that applies.

APPENDIX

Qualifications ordinance (Higher Education Ordinance, Annex 2)

Contents

- the qualifications that may be awarded in the third cycles, and
- the requirements to be fulfilled for the award of each qualification (qualification descriptors)

THIRD-CYCLE QUALIFICATIONS

General qualifications

Degree of Licentiate

Scope

A Degree of Licentiate is awarded

- either after a third-cycle student has completed a study programme of at least 120 credits in a subject in which third-cycle teaching is offered,
- or after a third-cycle student has completed one part comprising at least 120 credits of a study programme intended to conclude with the award of a Degree of Doctor, if a higher education institution decides that a licentiate of this kind may be awarded at the institution.

Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Licentiate the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the field of research including current specialist knowledge in a limited area of this field as well as specialised knowledge of research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.

Competence and skills

For a Degree of Licentiate the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate the skills to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake a limited piece of research and other qualified tasks within predetermined time frames in order to contribute to the formation of knowledge as well as to evaluate this work

- demonstrate the skills in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society in general, and
- demonstrate the skills required to participate autonomously in research and development work and to work autonomously in some other qualified capacity.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Licentiate the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate the skills to make assessments of ethical aspects of his or her own research
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the skills to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

Thesis

For a Degree of Licentiate the third-cycle student shall have been awarded a Pass grade for a research thesis of at least 60 credits.

Miscellaneous

Specific requirements determined by each higher education institution itself within the parameters of the requirements laid down in this qualification descriptor shall also apply for a Degree of Licentiate with a defined specialisation.

Degree of doctor

Scope

A Degree of Doctor is awarded after the third-cycle student has completed a study programme of at least 240 credits in a subject in which third-cycle teaching is offered.

Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

For the Degree of doctor the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate broad knowledge and systematic understanding of the research field as well as advanced and up-to-date specialised knowledge in a limited area of this field, and
- demonstrate familiarity with research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.

Competence and skills

- demonstrate the capacity for scholarly analysis and synthesis as well as review and assess new and complex phenomena, issues and situations autonomously and critically
- demonstrate the skills to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake research and other advanced tasks within predetermined time frames and to review and evaluate such work
- demonstrate through a dissertation the skills to make a significant contribution to the formation of knowledge through his or her own research
- demonstrate the skills in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings authoritatively in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society in general
- demonstrate the skills to identify the need for further knowledge and
- demonstrate the capacity to contribute to social development and support the learning of others both through research and education and in some other qualified professional capacity.

Judgement and approach

For the Degree of Doctor the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate intellectual autonomy and disciplinary rectitude as well as the ability to make assessments of research ethics, and
- demonstrate specialised insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used.

Research thesis (doctoral thesis)

For the Degree of Doctor the third-cycle student shall have been awarded a Pass grade for a research thesis (doctoral thesis) of at least 120 credits.

Miscellaneous

Specific requirements determined by each higher education institution itself within the parameters of the requirements laid down in this qualification descriptor shall also apply for a Degree of Doctor with a defined specialisation. Ordinance (2008:132)