

Programme Syllabus
with course syllabi

for
Master in Economics and Finance

120 Credits

Graduate

Start fall 2009



JÖNKÖPING INTERNATIONAL
BUSINESS SCHOOL
JÖNKÖPING UNIVERSITY

Confirmed 2009-06-01

Background

The programme is given by Jönköping International Business School and is titled Master in Economics and Finance. The full-time two-year programme comprises 120 credits.

Having satisfied all requirements laid down by regulation for the degree concerned, the professional degree of Master of Science (Two Years) with a Major in Economics is awarded.

Program Specific Aims

- to train the students in the basic background and techniques of economics appropriate for a MSc degree with economics as the primary subject
- to involve students in issues dealing with the foundations of economics, such as economic growth, business renewal, international economics and the financial market
- to train students in the basic techniques of economic analysis
- to offer students an education with a genuine international focus by providing course material that deals with international issues, an international environment with courses including students from abroad through both the exchange programme and programme enrollment, and extensive opportunities to study abroad through the exchange programme
- to explain to the students how economic systems work and to build up the necessary skills for using that knowledge appropriately in a variety of contexts
- to actively involve students in thinking critically about ideas, events, and institutions through economics studies and to stimulate in students an appreciation of the wide range of problems and issues to which economics can be applied, including those of a political, social, or environmental nature
- to train the students in how, and where to find empirical data of economic variables and how to use it to confirm or reject economic theories
- to train the students in how, and where, to find scientific documents of other researchers result, e.g. publications in international journals
- to train the students to document scientific problems, solutions and results
- to exercise the students in applying economic techniques to real-world issues through the use of analytical and simplifying frameworks at the appropriate level of abstraction
- to train the students on how to appropriately analyze theoretical and applied economic problems, including those that deal with issues in economic policy
- to train the students in how to write scientific papers for possible publications in scientific journals
- to prepare the students with a background in knowledge and skills sufficient for fulfilling entry requirements for doctoral studies in economics at most universities

- to exercise students, through their economics studies, in a variety of generic skills useful for a working career and for their development intellectually and personally
- to provide the students with qualifications suitable for a working career

Study Abroad and Internationalisation

Each track offers in the third term the possibility of study abroad through exchange with one of the many partner universities of JIBS.

Contents

The master programme provides a consecutive education in the fields of economics, financial economics and quantitative methods. The aim of this master programme is to deepen the understanding and knowledge of students already holding a bachelor degree in economics, finance, or statistics. In general, special emphasis is placed on training the students to be capable of combining advanced theories in economics and finance with state-of-the-art quantitative methods. The aim is to prepare students to obtain leading positions in business or within the governmental sector, to start their own ventures, or pursue a career in academics.

The programme allows students to specialize in one of the following four tracks: (1) Econometrics and Economic Analysis, (2) International Finance, (3) International Trade and Investment or (4) Spatial Economics.

Four courses are mandatory and common for all three tracks: Mathematics for Economic Theory, Advanced Econometrics, Advanced Macroeconomics and Advanced Microeconomics. In the second semester the students take courses that are track-specific. The third semester offers the possibility of studies abroad or alternatively, to take courses at JIBS. The fourth semester consists of the writing of a master thesis in economics, equivalent to 30 hp. The thesis writing should be considered as a core-part of the education.

Language

The education is given and examined in English

Prerequisites

Bachelor's degree in Economics, Finance or equivalent, which must include a minimum of 60 ECTS credits in Economics/Finance and 15 ECTS credits in Statistics/Econometrics.

English equivalent to English B in the Swedish upper secondary school.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in their main field of study, including both broad knowledge in the field and substantially deeper knowledge of certain parts of the - demonstrate deeper methodological knowledge in their main field of study

Skills and abilities

- demonstrate an ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and to analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations, even when limited information is available
- demonstrate an ability to critically, independently and creatively identify and formulate issues and to plan and, using appropriate methods, carry out advanced tasks within specified time limits, so as to contribute to the development of knowledge and to evaluate this work
- demonstrate an ability to clearly present and discuss their conclusions and the knowledge and arguments behind them, in dialogue with different groups, orally and in writing, in national and international contexts
- demonstrate the skill required to participate in research and development work or to work independently in other advanced contexts

Assessment and attitude skills

- demonstrate an ability to make assessments in their main field of study, taking into account relevant scientific, social and ethical aspects, and demonstrate an awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work
- demonstrate insight into the potential and limitations of science, its role in society and people's responsibility for how it is used
- demonstrate an ability to identify their need of further knowledge and to take responsibility for developing their knowledge

Courses

Academic year 1

Study period 1	Study period 2	Study period 3	Study period 4
Mathematics for Economic Theory (JETD27) 7,5 hp	Advanced Econometric Analysis (JAED27) 7,5 hp	Advanced Microeconomics and Decision Theory (JMID27) 7,5 hp	Tracks specific course 7,5 hp
Advanced Macroeconomics and Growth (JMCD27) 7,5 hp	Advanced Research Methods in Business and Economics (JARD29) 7,5 hp	Tracks specific course 7,5 hp	Tracks specific course 7,5 hp

Academic year 2

Study period 1	Study period 2	Study period 3	Study period 4
Elective courses / Study abroad 30 hp		Master Thesis in Economics (Two Years) (JMYD29) 30 hp	

Evaluation

Our cooperation with JSA, the student organization, is crucial. This work is conducted on two levels, programs and courses

Programme level

On the program level students elect student representatives for each track of the program and each study year of the program. The student representatives and the program managers meet regularly to discuss courses and the progress of the programme. The representatives stay in contact with course coordinators to share the overall impression and student experiences from courses, in addition, the programme manager, student representatives, JSA and faculty meet annually to discuss the entire program

Course level

On the course level, program developers and course responsible meet shortly after the course has started. The purpose is to ensure that the course is working well and if necessary make minor changes. After each course is finished all students perform course evaluations in PingPong, and program developers evaluate the course on the aggregate level and communicate with program manager and course responsible.

Examination grades

Students must satisfy course requirements. Three methods of evaluation of student performance in courses are used: written examination, oral examination, and written assignment. In a single course, one of these methods may be used or a combination of them may be used. Oral examinations and written assignments may be carried out individually or in groups. Written examinations are to be done soon after the course has come to an end. In courses where there is a written examination, the student is offered at least two retakes per course. For written examinations taken in May/June only one retake opportunity is given, in August. Those who have passed an exam are not allowed to retake it. Mandatory workshops (attached to courses) may have student performance evaluated by multiple-choice testing coordinated through computer software.

All courses are graded. Usually students receive two grades: a Swedish grade, with Passed with distinction (VG), Passed (G) and Failed (U) as the possible grades, and an ECTS grade, with A-E being passed grades and F being failed. For most workshops and some courses, only Passed or Failed is given.

Degree certificate

To obtain the Degree of Master of Science (Two Years) with a major in Economics, the student must complete the course requirements of at least 120 ECTS credits, where 60 ECTS credits constitute economics at advanced level, (with the inclusion of Master thesis 30 ECTS credits), 30 ECTS credits in courses at advanced level and 30 ECTS credits in elective courses.

Further education

The master of science degree qualifies students for doctoral positions in Economics or Finance.

Career prospects

The education provides students with opportunities for jobs requiring sound knowledge in economics and economic thinking. Graduates will be especially attractive to employers

looking for these skills in financial, regional, or international economic issues such as required by international organizations, multinational firms, governmental agencies, research institutes etc. Possible job titles would include economic analyst, stockbroker, consultant, researchers. This programme also provides an excellent basis for doctoral studies.