

Course curriculum for STAM01 First Year Master Thesis

1. General information

1. Name: Independent study leading to a Masters thesis (Magisteruppsats)
2. Level: Advanced level (A1E)
3. Credit points: 15; ECTS-credits: 15
4. Approved by the Board of Directors at the Department of Statistics, School of Economics and Management, Lund University, February 4, 2008.

2. Course placement within the educational system

1. Subject: Statistics
2. This is a master level course and is mandatory in the Masters programme in Statistics.
3. The course is offered in English.

3. Learning outcomes

Students will acquire skills needed for independent research in statistics. They will be trained in applying previously acquired knowledge and experience in Statistics in order to independently treat a general research question or problem.

On successful completion of the course students will be able to

- identify a relevant research issue;
- choose appropriate methods for research issues;
- apply statistical methods and analyse and interpret the findings and draw appropriate conclusions;
- present a written report, in accordance with academic standard, describing the research.

In addition, students will have

- acquired deeper knowledge within a specific area of statistics
- developed the ability to communicate project results.

4. Course content

The assignment is carried out by two students working together, or may, under certain circumstances, be done individually. The students will define a research issue, carry out research and write the thesis. A supervisor will be assigned to the students at an early stage of the process.

In addition to the completion of the thesis, students should participate in seminar discussions of theses written by other students.

5. Teaching and assessment

Teaching consists primarily of individual supervision and guidance in discussion at seminars. Throughout the research process students can consult the supervisor for feedback and criticism. After submission of the thesis there is a final oral presentation at a seminar. In the assessment of the thesis, factors considered are the scientific content as well as the students' writing and communication skills.

An examination board is responsible for the grading of the thesis.

Note

The university views plagiarism very seriously, and will take disciplinary actions against students for any kind of attempted malpractice in examinations and assessments. Plagiarism is considered to be a very serious academic offence. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other unfair practice in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University for a specified period.

6. Grading scale

At the School of Economics and Management grades are awarded in accordance with a criterion-based grading scale A-F:

- A: Excellent
- B: Very good
- C: Good
- D: Satisfactory
- E: Sufficient
- F: Fail

Students have to receive a grade of E or higher in order to pass a course.

GRADE	CHARACTERISTIC	POINTS	CRITERIA
A	Excellent	100-85	A distinguished result that is excellent with regard to the following aspects – theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.
B	Very good	84-75	A very good result with regard to the above mentioned aspects.
C	Good	74-65	The result is of a good standard with regard to the above mentioned aspects and lives up to expectations.
D	Satisfactory	64-55	The result is of a satisfactory standard with regard to the above mentioned aspects and lives up to expectations.
E	Sufficient	55-50	The result satisfies the minimum requirements with regard to the above mentioned aspects, but not more.
F	Fail	49-0	The result does not meet the minimum requirements with regard to the above mentioned aspects.

7. Prerequisites

General prerequisites for the masters programme in Statistics.