

## **Course curriculum for STAMZZ Second Year Master Thesis**

### **1. General information**

1. Name: Independent study leading to a Masters thesis (Masteruppsats)
2. Level: Advanced level
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, 9 February 2009.

### **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

- independently identify and develop a relevant research issue;
- choose and strictly apply 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**

The following grades are used: Pass with distinction, Pass and Fail. All courses are as a supplement also graded according to the ECTS scale A-F.

**7. Prerequisites**

General prerequisites for the masters programme in Statistics and completion of the First Year Master Thesis.