

UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS



Master of Science in Economics **2015 Programme-specific Curriculum**

2024 revision

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1 Introduction

In addition to this Programme-specific Curriculum for the master's programme in Economics there is a Curricula's Common Part which applies to all Bachelor- and Master's programmes at the Faculty of Social Sciences. The Curricula's Common Part contains common rules that apply to all programmes at the faculty. The programme-specific Curriculum describes the academic elements of the Master's Programme in Economics.

The course descriptions in the university's course catalogue are part of the programme-specific curriculum.

The Programme-specific Curriculum applies to students who started on the English program on 1 September 2015 or later. The curriculum is approved by the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Copenhagen and becomes effective on 1 February 2024 for all students in the English programme.

2 Title and Affiliation

On successful completion of the Master's programme in Economics, graduates are entitled to use the title Master of Science (MSc) in Economics. In Danish: Cand.polit. or optional title cand. oecon. The programme is affiliated with the Board of Studies for Economics.

The Board of External Examiners for Economics provides all external examiners for the programme.

The programme is based at the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Copenhagen. The language of instruction for this MSc programme is English.

3 Purpose and Competency Profile

3.1 Purpose

The Master's programme in Economics is an independent and complete research-based programme of study. The MSc programme is aimed at further developing the knowledge, skills, and competences that students have acquired throughout their bachelor programme.

The aim of the Master's programme is to:

1. Provide students with the possibility to qualify and specialize in economic and econometric theory and methods and to learn from other disciplines within the social sciences.
2. Equip students with advanced academic knowledge, theoretical qualifications, and methodological skills so that students are capable of independently identifying, formulating, and solving advanced complex problems within the fields of economics and econometrics.
3. Equip students with the competencies necessary to find employment in economic professions as well as qualify them for admission to PhD programmes in economics.

3.2 Competency Profile

The aim of the research-based MSc Programme in Economics at the University of Copenhagen is to offer students a solid and internationally recognized development of their competencies in economics, econometrics, and the application of these in economics and business problems. The programme offers students a high degree of freedom of choice, which allows them to specialize in advanced economics and econometrics. Moreover, there are options to choose to combine these with studies within other disciplines within the social sciences.

Students may furthermore obtain a degree in economics with a specialization in finance.

The programme has been constructed to further the ability to develop personal, continuous, and critical knowledge. Several advanced economics theoretical and methodological courses ensure that students' knowledge reaches a high level by international standards.

After completing the programme, will have acquired the following:

Knowledge

- Deep and comprehensive knowledge about advanced aspects of economic theory
- Knowledge of advanced statistical and econometric methods
- Deep and comprehensive knowledge about how economic theory and methods can be applied to contemporary economic problems
- Critical and independent reflection on advanced economic theory and methods

Skills

- Skills in using advanced economic theory within a wide range of fields, e.g., public economics, development economics, international economics, finance etc.

- Skills in acknowledging, structuring, and solving economic problems in a constructive manner.
- Be able to independently construct, conduct and interpret own analyses using statistical and econometric methods
- Be able to independently disseminate complex economic problems in writing and orally in a clear language
- Be able to critique economic theory and methods

Competencies

- Be able to independently discuss and interpret the assumptions and limitations of economic models in relation to concrete societal issues.
- Be able to independently define and carry out advanced statistical and econometric analyses
- Be able to independently formulate an analytical solution to an economic problem by combining advanced economic theory, data, and statistical and econometric methods
- Be able to independently explain and interpret results of empirical and theoretical analyses
- Be able to independently identify and acquire new research-based knowledge on advanced economic theory and methods
- Be able to independently initiate and carry out professional teamwork and assume academic responsibility.

3.3 Admission Requirements

The MSc Programme in Economics at the University of Copenhagen is offered both in Danish and in English. The Danish intake is for applicants who hold Danish language qualifications on par with Danish upper secondary school ‘Danish level A.

Applicants who hold one of the degrees listed below and hold documentary proof that they meet any and all language requirements, are considered to meet all academic admission requirements and have direct access to apply to the master’s degree programme in Economics:

- Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Economics from the University of Copenhagen
- Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Economics – the Socioeconomic Line from the University of Southern Denmark
- Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Economics from Aarhus University
- Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Economics from Aalborg University

- Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Mathematics-Economics from Aarhus University
- Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Mathematics-Economics from the University of Copenhagen
- Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Computer Science-Economics from the University of Copenhagen

Other applicants may be admitted based on a specific, individual, academic assessment of whether they are able to document knowledge, expertise and skills corresponding to the Bachelor Programme in Economics at the University of Copenhagen.

This assessment will be based on the following requirements:

- The programme must be on the same level as the Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Economics from the University of Copenhagen
- Microeconomics (a minimum of 15 ECTS corresponding to Microeconomics I+II from the Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Economics, UCPH)
- Macroeconomics (a minimum of 15 ECTS corresponding to Macroeconomics I+II from the Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Economics, UCPH)
- Econometrics/Statistics (a minimum of 15 ECTS corresponding to Probability Theory and Statistics + Econometrics I from the Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Economics, UCPH)
- Mathematics (a minimum of 10 ECTS on the same level as Mathematics A+B from the Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Economics, UCPH)
- Proficiency in English corresponding to at least English B-level (on par with the Danish upper secondary school English level B)

Applicants who have completed other educational activities that can be equated with a completed bachelor's degree can be admitted after individual assessment.

As of February 2024, there are no professional bachelor programs that serve as qualifying for admission to the Master's program in Economics. An annual assessment is made regarding whether new professional bachelor programs may provide eligibility. Further information on admission can be found on [Master of Science \(MSc\) in Economics – University of Copenhagen \(ku.dk\)](#)

Language requirements

All applicants who do not have legal right of admission must document qualifications on par with

at least the Danish upper secondary school 'English level B'.

For more information on the English language requirement, see

<https://studies.ku.dk/masters/economics/admission-requirements/language-requirements/>

3.3.1 Selection Criteria and prioritisation of applicants

If more applicants than the maximum intake fulfil the admission requirements, a selection will be made based on a comprehensive evaluation, with emphasis on the following criteria:

- Grades from the qualifying bachelor's degree
- Grades achieved for bachelor's courses relevant to the MSc in Economics, i.e., microeconomics, macroeconomics, and econometrics
- Relevant academic experience, including work experience. If the applicant possesses any academically relevant experience, including work experience, the applicant must submit a statement which describes the experience acquired and its relevance for the MSc in Economics

There is a restricted intake of students. For each upcoming intake, the current number of vacant places on the Master's degree programme can be found at

<https://studies.ku.dk/masters/economics/application-procedure/>.

3.3.2 Supplementary Subject Elements

Only the applicant's bachelor's degree will be considered when the applicant's academic qualifications is assessed. This means that it is not possible to complete supplementary courses to meet the specific admission requirements.

4 Content and Academic Profile

4.1 Programme Components

Subject elements and exams are quantified in terms of ECTS credits (the European Credit Transfer System), according to which 60 ECTS credits correspond to one year of full-time study. If a subject element is prescribed to 7.5 ECTS credits, this corresponds to 1/8 of one year's prescribed full-time study.

The Master's programme in Economics is set at 120 ECTS and consists of the following 90 ECTS constituent subject elements:

- Compulsory subject elements, 22,5 ECTS
- Core electives, minimum 22,5 ECTS
- Seminars, minimum 15 ECTS
- Thesis, 30 ECTS

In addition, the programme consists of restricted electives (non-constituent) of a maximum of 30 ECTS or an academic internship abroad (non-constituent) of a maximum of 30 ECTS.

All courses, seminars, and the master's thesis, must be completed in English.

The table below illustrates the recommended academic progression. Students may plan an alternative progression within the applicable rules governing the maximum time of study, cf. the section on study activity requirements and study time in the Curricula's Common Part:

4. sem.	Master's Thesis 30 ECTS			
3. sem.	Electives 22,5 ECTS			Seminar 7,5 ECTS
2. sem.	Electives 22,5 ECTS			Seminar 7,5 ECTS
1. sem.	Electives 7,5 ECTS	Econometrics II 7,5 ECTS	Microeconomics III 7,5 ECTS	Macroeconomics III 7,5 ECTS

The compulsory subject elements Econometrics II, Microeconomics III and Macroeconomics III are placed in the first semester. Students who have already passed one or more of these courses as part of their admission qualifications must take core electives instead.

Core electives in economics include courses offered by the Department of Economics at the University of Copenhagen, as well as courses in economic theory and methodology, econometrics,

and mathematics offered at other programmes (see section 4.4. on credits). Most electives, but not all, and all seminars offered by the Department of Economics at the University of Copenhagen, are regarded as constituent subject elements.

Students can replace 30 ECTS core electives with restricted electives. Restricted electives are non-constituent elements which lie within the social sciences in a broader sense. The grouping of electives into constituent core electives and non-constituent restricted electives, respectively, was introduced as of 1 September 2022.

As part of the restricted electives, students may choose to write up to two (2) co-curricular written assignments, each equal to 0.5–7.5 ECTS or do an academic internship abroad equal to 30 ECTS. The possibility to do an academic internship was introduced as of 1 February 2023.

Students must take at least two (2), and a maximum of three (3) seminars. These are typically placed in the 2nd and 3rd semesters. If a third seminar is taken, it replaces a core elective. Students are free to move seminars and electives around.

A 30 ECTS mobility window may be placed on the second or third semester.

The thesis (30 ECTS) can be placed either in the 3rd or 4th semester, provided that the student has passed at least 60 ECTS before the thesis writing period begins.

When transferring credits from other institutions, the total of non-constituent courses may not exceed 30 ECTS (see section 4.4).

Econometrics II, Microeconomics III, and Macroeconomics III are offered each semester.

Most electives are offered either in the spring semester or in the autumn semester. The range of seminars varies from semester to semester.

See section 6.1. for a list of all subject elements. Course descriptions can also be found in the online course catalogue at www.kurser.ku.dk.

4.2 Specialization

Students enrolled in the MSc in Economics can choose one track of specialization, e.g., the finance track.

To complete the specialization in Finance, students must have taken at least 52,5 ECTS F-marked subject elements of which at least 7,5 ECTS must be F-marked seminars.

This can be done in the following ways:

- At least 45 ECTS F-marked electives, one F-marked seminar (7,5 ECTS) and writing your Master's thesis in the field of finance *or*
- At least 37,5 ECTS F-marked electives, minimum two F-marked seminars (15 ECTS) and writing your Master's thesis in the field of finance *or*
- At least 30 ECTS F-marked electives, three F-marked seminars (22,5 ECTS) writing your Master's thesis in the field of finance

All F-marked electives must be taken as part of the Master's programme.

All F-marked seminars and most, but not all, F-marked electives offered at the Department of Economics, are considered constituent subject elements. See the course overview in section 6.

The Finance specialization is structured in the same way as the ordinary master's degree programme in Economics, which means that students also must have the compulsory subject elements: Microeconomics III, Macroeconomics III, and Econometrics II worth a total of 22,5 ECTS. Students who have already passed one or more of these courses as part of their admission qualifications must take core electives instead.

Students who want the specialization in finance to appear on the final diploma must request to be transferred to the finance track. This must be done when the student has registered for the required number of F-marked electives, seminars, and a master's thesis in finance, typically when the master's thesis contract has been approved. The student must request for the transfer to the finance track before receiving the last grade on the programme. The exact procedure is described on study information pages in KUnet.

4.3 Registration for Teaching and Exams

Students are personally responsible for registering for all teaching and exams through KUnet Self Service during the registration periods prior to each semester.

Students only have the right to register for a subject element once. A second registration requires a new exam approval. Students who choose to register for subject elements with mandatory assignments for a second time must hand in all assignments again to be approved for the exam. It is not possible to reuse an exam approval from a previous semester. Students are not guaranteed a spot on a subject element when they re-register.

When registering for a subject element, the student will automatically be registered for the exam associated with the subject element in question.

Registration for a subject element is binding when the late-registration period ends. This means that the subject element must be included in the student's study programme, and that it cannot be replaced by other subject elements.

If an elective /a seminar is no longer offered on a regular basis and/or is either cancelled or postponed, the student is entitled to a third examination attempt.

4.3.1 Selection Criteria for Electives

If the number of registrations for a specific elective within the initial registration period exceeds the course capacity, students will be apportioned by the following order of prioritization:

1. Students, including exchange students, enrolled in the programme which offers the elective.
2. Students from other programmes at the Faculty of Social Sciences who have registered for the elective through KU Self Service.
3. Credit students.
4. Part-time tuition fee students.

The respective electives are filled with students from Category 1 before students from Category 2 are considered, and so forth.

Within each category (1-4), students are distributed through the drawing of lots.

4.3.2 Selection Criteria for Seminars

Full-time students enrolled in the economics programme take priority over credit and single-subject students. Students must choose three priorities to make sure they are allocated a spot. Students who want to take two seminars must choose two first priorities, one second priority and one third

priority.

If there are more students who have registered for a seminar as their first priority than there are spots available, the allocation of places will be decided by the drawing of lots. Students who do not get a spot on their first priority will be allocated a place on their 2nd or 3rd priority if these have been stated. Students who only choose a first priority and are not allocated a spot will not be contacted by the study administration.

4.4 Credit

The Study Board can approve that the student, as part of the programme, completes subject elements at another university or other higher education institution in Denmark or abroad. The student must apply for a pre-approval for these subject elements. All subject elements for which credit is transferred must be completed in English.

Credits from foreign universities are transferred with the assessment pass/fail.

For a subject element to be transferred as a substitute for a specific subject element within the Master's programme, the subject element applied for must cover at least 75% of the syllabus/content in the subject element at the Department of Economics.

For a subject element to be transferred as an elective without replacing a specific elective to the Master's programme, the subject element applied for must be within the field of economic theory or method, econometrics, statistics, mathematics, programming, computer science or social science in a broader sense. The subject element should provide the student with economic skills. The Study Board may grant an exemption if it is considered that the subject element applied for is relevant in relation to the student's individual academic profile. In their application, students are required to substantiate how the requested subject element enhances their economic profile. Such a subject element will be credited as a restricted elective (non-constituent).

Students can only obtain credit transfer for one seminar. Language courses cannot be transferred.

Students who, after credit transfer, lack an odd number of ECTS-credits in relation to the offered subject elements can write a co-curriculum written assignment, see chapter 6.2.5.

5 Exams

5.1 Assessment and Grading

The Danish Ministerial Order on University Examinations (Eksamensbekendtgørelsen) stipulates external examiners must evaluate at least one third of the amount of ECTS credits available through the MSc (i.e., 40 ECTS). This requirement is fulfilled through a 100 % external assessment of the thesis (30 ECTS), as well as the seminars (15 -22,5 ECTS).

In addition, every semester, around three courses are selected for an external co-examination of 20% of the total amount of exam papers. In the overview of subject elements (6.1), the form of censorship that can be selected for external assessment is specified as random sample. Courses with an oral exam always have an external co-examiner if only one teacher teaches the course . Courses with take-home exams never have external co-examiners, unless extraordinary circumstances apply. Co-curricular written assignments corresponding to 5.5 ECTS or more are subject to external assessment. Details of the evaluation method of each subject element are described in section 6.1, and at www.kurser.ku.dk/.

The Danish Ministerial Order on University Examinations (Eksamensbekendtgørelsen) stipulates that at least two thirds of the ECTS credits of the MSc (i.e., 80 ECTS) must be assessed with grades. This requirement is fulfilled, through the assessment with grades of the master's thesis (30 ECTS), Econometrics II (7,5 ECTS), Microeconomics III (7,5 ECTS) and Macroeconomics III (7,5 ECTS), two or three seminars (15 – 22,5 ECTS), as well as at least other electives of 15 ECTS. Students who have passed Econometrics II, Microeconomics III and Macroeconomics III during their bachelor's programme must replace these with graded core electives offered by the Department of Economics.

Most subject element offered by the Department of Economics are graded according to the 7-point grading scale. However, few subject element are assessed with pass/fail. When this is the case, it is noted in the course description.

Credits from foreign universities are transferred with the assessment pass/fail. Transferred results are not included in the calculation that no more than 1/3 of the subject elements must be graded pass/fail.

5.2 Exam Language

All subject elements included the Master's thesis, must be completed in English.

The language of the exam is the same as the teaching language. This means that it is not possible to write exams in languages other than the teaching language. This also applies if the exam is changed from a written exam to an oral exam and if a re-exam is in an elective course or a seminar exam is changed to a re-exam paper. Mandatory assignments must also be written in English.

6 Course Catalogue

6.1 Outline of Subject Elements

Below is an overview of the subject elements.

The overview links to subject elements offered in the autumn semester 2023 and spring semester 2024. Minor discrepancies with the course descriptions are reserved. In such cases, it is the current course descriptions in the course catalogue at [University of Copenhagen - Courses \(ku.dk\)](https://www.ku.dk/courses) that apply.

Course descriptions for subject elements that are no longer offered can be found in the archive at [University of Copenhagen - Previous courses \(ku.dk\)](https://www.ku.dk/previous-courses)

(F) after the title indicates that the subject element is part of the finance track.

Compulsory subject elements (constituent):

Course Title	ECTS Credits	Exam pre-requisite *	Exam **	Asses sment	External Assessment ***
Econometrics II	7,5	Yes	Portfolio, 48 hours	Grade	No
Microeconomics III	7,5	Yes	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample

Course Title	ECTS Credits	Exam pre-requisite *	Exam **	Assesment	External Assessment ***
Macroeconomics III	7,5	Yes	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample

Core electives (constituent):

Course Title	ECTS Credits	Exam pre-requisites *	Exam **	Assesment	External assessment ***
Advanced Development Economics (Micro Aspects)	7,5	No	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	No
Advanced Development Economics - Macro Aspects	7,5	Yes	12-hours take-home exam	Grade	No
Advanced Economics of the Environment and Climate Change	7,5	Yes	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Advanced Empirical Finance: Topics and Data Science (F)	7,5	Yes	Portfolio, 48 hours	Grade	No
Advanced Financial and Macro Econometrics (F)	7,5	Yes	12 hours take-home exam	Grade	No
Advanced Game Theory	7,5	Yes	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample

Course Title	ECTS Credits	Exam pre-requisites *	Exam **	Assesment	External assessment ***
Advanced Industrial Organization	7,5	No	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Advanced International Trade	7,5	Yes	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Advanced Macroeconomics: Business Cycles	7,5	No	72 hours take-home exam	Grade	No
Advanced Macroeconomics: Heterogenous Agent Models	7,5	No	Portfolio, 48 hours	Grade	No
Advanced Macroeconomics: Structural Vector Autoregressive (VAR) Analysis (F)	7,5	Yes	48-hours take-home exam	Grade	No
Advanced Microeconometrics	7,5	Yes	Portfolio, 48 hours	Grade	No
Applied Econometric Policy Evaluation	7,5	Ja	2 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	No
Behavioral and Experimental Economics	7,5	Yes	2 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Behavioral Finance (F)	7,5	No	2 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample

Course Title	ECTS Credits	Exam pre-requisites *	Exam **	Assesment	External assessment ***
Contract Theory	7,5	No	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Corporate Finance Theory (F)	7,5	Yes	3 hours written exam, written aids allowed	Grade	No
Demography	7,5	Yes	Project	Grade	No
Development Economics	7,5	No	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Distributive Justice	7,5	No	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Dynamic Programming - Theory, Computation, and Empirical Applications	7,5	No	Project + oral exam	Grade	No
Economic Growth (F)	7,5	No	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Economic Policy and the Welfare State	7,5	No	6 hours take home exam	Grade	No
Economic Sociology	7,5	No	12 hours take-home exam	Grade	No
Economics of Banking (F)	7,5	No	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Economics of Banking (F)	7,5	No	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample

Course Title	ECTS Credits	Exam pre-requisites *	Exam **	Assesment	External assessment ***
Economics of Education	7,5	Yes	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Economics of Exchange Rates (F)	7,5	Yes	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Economics of Gender	7,5	Yes	8 hours take home exam	Grade	No
Economics of the Environment and Climate Change	7,5	No	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Energy Economics of the Green Transition	7,5	No	Project, 4 weeks	Grade	No
Field Experiments	7,5	Yes	12-hours take-home exam	Grade	No
Financial Decision Making	7,5	Ja	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Financial Econometrics A (F)	7,5	Yes	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Financial Markets Microstructure (F)	7,5	No	12 hours take-home exam	Grade	No
Financial Theory and Models (F)	7,5	No	3 hours open book exam, written aids allowed	Grade	Random sample

Course Title	ECTS Credits	Exam pre-requisites *	Exam **	Assesment	External assessment ***
Fixed Income Derivatives: Risk Management and Financial Institutions (F)	7,5	No	12 hours take-home exam	Grade	No
Foundations of Behavioural Economics	7,5	No	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Health Economic Evaluations	7,5	No	Project, 3 weeks	Grade	No
Health Economics	7,5	No	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
History of Economic Thought	7,5	No	3 hours written exam, written aids allowed	Grade	No
Household Behavior over the Life Cycle	7,5	Yes	Portfolio, 48 hours	Grade	No
Incentives and Organization (discontinued)	7,5	No	Project	Grade	No
Industrial Organization	7,5	No	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
International Economics	7,5	Yes	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
International Macroeconomic s (F)	7,5	Yes	12 hours take home exam	Grade	No
Introduction to Programming and Numerical Analysis	7,5	Yes	Portfolio, 48 hours	Pass/ fail	No

Course Title	ECTS Credits	Exam pre-requisites *	Exam **	Assesment	External assessment ***
Introduction to Social Data Science	7,5	Yes	Project, 10 days	Grade	No
Labour Economics	7,5	No	12-hours take-home exam	Grade	No
Managerial Accounting (F)	7,5	No	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Mechanism Design	7,5	No	12-hours take-home exam	Grade	No
Political Economics	7,5	No	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Pricing Financial Assets (F)	7,5	No	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Public Finance (changes title from Autumn 24 to 'Public Economics')	7,5	Yes	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Science of Behavior Change	7,5	Yes	2-hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
Tax Policy (changes title from Autumn 24 to 'Advanced Public Economics')	7,5	No	3 hours written exam, no aids allowed	Grade	Random sample
The Economic History of Europe	7,5	Yes	12 hours take-home exam	Grade	No

Restricted electives (non-constituent):

Title	ECTS-point	Exam prerequisites *	Exam **	Assessment	External assessment ***
Advanced Strategic Management (Offered for the last time in spring 24)	7,5	No	Oral exam without preparation with synopsis	Grade	Yes
Organization Theory	7,5	Yes	48-hours take-home exam	Grade	No
Strategic Management	7,5	Yes	Oral with preparation and written aids	Grade	Yes

Academic internship abroad (non-constituent):

Title	ECTS	Exam prerequisites *	Exam	Assessment	External assessment
Academic internship abroad	30	yes	Project	Pass/Not pass	No

Seminars (constituent):

Subject	ECTS	Exam prerequisites *	Exam	Assessment	External assessment	Re-exam
Seminars The offered seminars can change from semester to semester. Course descriptions can be found at University of Copenhagen - Courses (ku.dk)	7.5	Yes	Project	Grade	Yes	Seminar paper with synopsis or register for the seminar again*

*It is not possible to register for the re-exam in the same semester as the seminar takes place. The re-exam can first take place the following semester. The re-exam form from spring semester 2024 is a seminar paper with a synopsis.

Co-Curricular Written Assignments (non-constituent):

Subject	ECTS	Exam prerequisites *	Exam	Assessment	External assessment	Re-exam
Co-Curricular Written Assignment	0.5–7.5	No	Project	Pass/Fail (0.5–5 ECTS) Grade (5.5–7.5 ECTS)	No (0.5–5 ECTS) Yes (5.5–7.5 ECTS)	Same

Master's Thesis:

Subject	ECTS	Exam prerequisites*	Exam	Assessment	External assessment	Re-exam
Master's Thesis / Master's Thesis in Finance	30	Yes	Project with oral defense	Grade	Yes	Same

* Students must meet the exam prerequisites before they are allowed to undertake the examination in the course, e.g., compulsory assignments, attendance, active participation, presentation and/or submission of a paper or a contract. The examination for some courses may be a project. In these cases, it may be a requirement that students submit a project description or similar before being eligible to write the project. This is not necessarily mentioned above. The specific exam registration requirements can be found in the course description in the electronic course catalogue at <http://kurser.ku.dk/>.

** The examination format in the re-examination period is the same as in the ordinary examination period, if nothing else is stated in the course description at http://kurser.ku.dk

If a re-examination is changed to an oral exam, students may be required to hand in an assignment, a project or a synopsis before attending the oral exam.

Take-home exams, portfolio exams and projects are always with aids. Detailed information about use of aids can be found in the course description in the electronic course catalogue at <http://kurser.ku.dk/>.

Use of AI tools is permitted in seminar papers, the master's thesis and in written take-home exams unless anything else is stated in the course description at <http://kurser.ku.dk/>. Students must explain how they have used the tools. When text is solely or mainly generated by an AI tool, the tool used must be quoted as a source. This applies from autumn semester 2023.

*** Random sample means that the course can be selected for 20% external assessment.

A take-home exam is defined as a given set of assignment questions that must be answered individually. For take-home exams, aids are always allowed. During take-home exams, students are not allowed to cooperate with others, including communicating with others about the examination. If students are allowed to enter collaboration with fellow students at take-home examinations, this will be stated in the course description.

A project exam is defined as an assignment where the student selects the topic of the assignment within the subject area. The student must prepare a project description that must be approved by the teacher.

Rules on cooperation as regards individual exams are described in the Curricula's Common Part.

6.2 Course Descriptions

The following section contains course descriptions for the:

- Master's Thesis
- Master's Thesis in Finance
- Seminars
- Academic Internship Abroad
- Co-curricular Written Assignments
- Re-exam paper in Electives

6.2.1 Master's Thesis

The master's thesis comprises 30 ECTS and must be placed in the second year of the master's programme. The student must have passed at least 60 ECTS in the programme before the thesis writing period begins.

Content

The master's thesis must demonstrate competencies in working with academic theories and methods within a specific topic based on key areas of economic theory and applied economics. The master's thesis must be written based on the core courses and other teaching activities (including those that are transferred from other degree programmes), which are included in the bachelor's and master's programmes in Economics.

Intended Learning Outcome:

In the master's thesis, the student is expected to be able to:

Knowledge

- Explain and critically relate to relevant theoretical and / or empirical issues within the core areas of the study programme.
- Explain and discuss new research-based knowledge of advanced theory and methodology within the core areas of the study programme.

Skills

- The student should be able to: Identify and describe a relevant, defined research question, and carry out an independent scientific analysis within one or more core areas of the programme.
- Apply relevant theories in a well-informed manner and reflect critically upon the applied theories, methods and empirical data that form the basis for the analysis.
- Design strategies for solutions related to the specific research question.
- Carry out a written and an oral reporting of research questions, method, analysis, and conclusions at an academic level.

Competencies

- Structure and initiate theoretical and/or empirical analyses within one or more core areas of the study programme.
- Independently formulate an analytical solution to an economic problem, if needed by combining advanced economic theory, data and statistic and econometric methods.
- Remain analytically towards the applied theories, methods, and own empirical.
- Be able to independently achieve academic development and specialization through the answering of the research question.

Students whose master's thesis and oral defense exam meet the specified requirements to an excellent degree (that is, with no or only a few minor weaknesses) are awarded the highest grade possible (12).

Registration and supervision

Students must register for the thesis in accordance with the rules described in the Curricula's Common Part. For a detailed description of the registration procedures see the study pages at KUnet.

Students must find a supervisor among one of the full-time lecturers at the Department of Economics, or among one of the part-time lecturers affiliated with the department. In exceptional circumstances, students may apply to the Board of Studies for an external supervisor employed at another Danish university. The exemption will be granted on condition that none of the supervisors at the Department can supervise the student(s) in question.

Supervisor has a total of 25 hours for supervision, preparation, and assessment of the student's thesis, including the oral defense.

Students, who write their theses in collaboration with a company and make use of company data, should draw up a third-party agreement clarifying how the students may use the data, and whether the thesis must be confidential. A template third-party agreement is available in the study pages at KUnet under 'master's Thesis'.

To write a thesis in a group, students must be enrolled in a programme governed by the same curriculum. It is not possible to write a thesis with a student enrolled in a different degree

programme. It is not possible to get a pre-approval to write the thesis at another programme. It is not possible to cancel the registration once approved by the University.

Submission

Theses must be submitted in Digital Exam. The exact procedure for submission is described in the study pages in KUnet.

If the thesis is not submitted on time, it will not be assessed. In such cases, the students will have used their first exam attempt and must enter a new contract. The new contract must include a revised problem statement within the same subject area.

About the second and third exam attempts

Students who fail to submit their theses by the stipulated deadline must register for a second exam attempt (and, if needed, a third attempt) under the rules described in section 4.2.5 of the Curricula's Common Part.

The student cannot use their second and third attempts if their maximum study time is exceeded. In that case, the student is withdrawn from the university regardless of whether all attempts have been used.

Type of Examination and Other Regulations

The master's thesis is a project with a subsequent oral defense.

Use of AI tools is permitted. Students must explain how they have used the tools. When text is solely or mainly generated by an AI tool, the tool used must be quoted as a source.

Formal requirements

Theses may be written individually or by two students in collaboration. If written by one student, the thesis must be no longer than 60 standard pages (144,000 keystrokes in total)); with two students the limit is 90 pages (216,000 keystrokes in total).

A standard page is defined as 2400 keystrokes including spaces. See the Curricula's Common Part for an overview of what is included in the keystroke count.

If two students co-write their thesis, it must be clearly stated which student wrote which part, enabling that their contributions can be assessed individually. The foreword/introduction and table of contents should clearly identify to which parts each author has contributed. Only the introduction and conclusion, as well as any potential sub-conclusions, may be written collectively. Please note that no more than 20% of the thesis may be co-written.

Students co-writing their thesis, defend it individually, and the authors may not be present at the co-author's oral defense. The grade must be given immediately following each defense.

Assessment

The master's thesis is assessed according to the 7-point grading scale, with external grading.

The summary is included in the assessment of the thesis.

The summary should summarize the main points of the thesis and stipulate how the student arrived at these conclusions. The summary must be written in English, German, or French. Swedish and Norwegian do not count as foreign languages.

Writing and spelling skills are part of the overall assessment of the thesis. However, the academic content is weighed more heavily.

Language

English

6.2.2 Master's Thesis in Finance

The Master's thesis in Finance comprises 30 ECTS and must be placed in the second year of the Master's programme. The student must have passed 60 ECTS in the programme before the thesis writing period begins.

Content

The master's thesis must demonstrate competencies in working with academic theories and methods within a specific topic based on key areas of financial economic theory and applied financial economics. The master's thesis must be written based on the core courses and other teaching activities (including those that are merited from other degree programs), which are included in the Bachelor's and Master's Programmes in Economics, with focus on finance courses/seminars within the finance track.

Learning Outcome

In the Master's thesis, the student is expected to be able to:

Knowledge

- Explain and critically relate to relevant theoretical and/or empirical issues within the core areas of the Finance track.
- Explain and discuss new research-based knowledge of advanced financial theory and methodology within the core areas of the Finance track.

Skills

- Identify and describe a relevant, defined research question and carry out an independent scientific analysis within one or more core areas of the Finance track.
- Apply relevant theories in a well-informed manner and reflect critically upon the applied theories, methods and empirical data that form the basis for the analysis.
- Design strategies for solutions related to the specific research question.
- Carry out a written and an oral reporting of research questions, method, analysis, and conclusions at an academic level.

Competencies

- Structure and initiate theoretical and/or empirical analyses within one or more core areas of the Finance track.
- Independently formulate an analytical solution to a financial economics problem, if needed, by combining advanced financial economic theory, data, and statistical and econometric methods.
- Remain analytically towards the applied theories, methods, and own empirical work.
- Be able to independently achieve academic development and specialization through the answering of the research question.

Students whose Master's thesis and oral defense exam meet the specified requirements to an excellent degree (that is, with no or only a few minor weaknesses) are awarded the highest grade possible (12).

The other sections regarding Registration, Submission, 2nd and 3rd examination attempts, type of examination and other regulations and assessment are identical to the text in the preceding section (6.2.1 Thesis).

6.2.3 Seminars

Seminars are courses with class teaching and a focus on written presentation.

It is recommended (but not a requirement) that students have participated in the corresponding course if such a course exists.

Purpose

The purpose of seminars in the MSc in Economics is for students to identify and clarify a problem employing theories and methods acquired during their bachelor's and master's programmes in Economics. Participation in an economic seminar involves preparation of a written presentation, constructive discussions of other students' presentations and active participation.

In the assessment, emphasis will be placed on a clear and distinct language in the seminar paper. The students make an agreement with the lecturer of the seminar concerning the topic of their individual seminar assignment. The assignment must be written in English.

Overall Intended learning Outcome

(supplemented by specific Intended Learning Outcome outlined in the individual course descriptions on <https://kurser.ku.dk/>)

Knowledge

- Specialized knowledge of a specific research theme within one or more of the core areas of the study programme.
- In-depth knowledge of academic discussions from relevant scientific literature.
- Knowledge of core methods, concepts and issues related to the research theme.

Skills

- Independently and critically select, define, and analyze a subtopic within one or more of the core areas of the study programme.
- Independently and critically identify literature relevant to the selected sub-topic.
- Independently assess the relevance and the reliability of the chosen theory, methodology and empirical data.
- Communicate the research results in an academic style.

- Evaluate and independently discuss the academic projects of fellow students as well as one's own.
- Offer professional feedback on the academic projects of fellow students.

Competencies

- Synthesize research-based contributions to knowledge.
- Planning and preparing advanced academic assignments within pre-determined times and contributing to the formation of knowledge.
- Remain analytically towards the applied theories, methods, and own empirical work.

Students whose seminar paper meets the specified requirements to an excellent degree (that is, with no or only a few minor weaknesses) are awarded the highest grade possible (12).

Registration and Submission

Students register for seminars online through the Self Service at KUnet– please consult paragraph 4.2 and 4.2.2.

The assignment must be submitted online in Digital Exam.

Type of Instruction

Students receive individual supervision from the lecturer. During the seminars the participating students prepare a paper about a previously agreed upon topic and present it to their fellow students and the lecturer. The participating students take turns in the role of opponents of other students' presentations. The opposition focuses, among other things, on the written presentation in the seminar paper draft, especially the introduction part.

Type of Examination and Other Regulations

Written assignment.

Use of AI tools is permitted in seminar papers. Students must explain how they have used the tools.

When text is solely or mainly generated by an AI tool, the tool used must be quoted as a source.

Formal Requirements

As a requirement for the examination, students must:

- a) Attend the agreement meeting at the beginning of the seminar,
- b) Attend seminar classes,
- c) Submit their commitment paper,
- d) Submit a pre-presentation (in case of such a requirement)
- e) Present their own seminar paper,
- f) Oppose a fellow student's seminar paper,
- g) Submit the final seminar paper.

Students may collaborate in groups of up to 3 people when writing seminar papers.

The seminar paper must not exceed 15 standard pages (36,000 characters). Additionally, 8 pages of appendices (19,200 characters) are allowed. The permitted the number of standard pages is increased by 50% corresponding to the number of students writing together. Therefore, seminar papers written by two students must not exceed 22.5 standard pages (54,000 characters), with an allowance of 12 pages of appendices (28,800 characters). Seminar papers written by three students must not exceed 30 standard pages (72,000 characters), with an allowance of 16 pages of appendices (38,400 characters).

When students co-write an assignment, it must be clearly stated which student wrote which part, enabling their contributions to be assessed individually. The foreword/introduction and table of contents should clearly identify to which parts each author contributed. The introduction and conclusion, as well as any potential sub-conclusions, may be written collectively. Please note that no more than 20 % of the assignment may be co-written.

Assessment

The grade for participation in a seminar is awarded based solely on the written presentation.

In the assessment of an economic seminar paper, the clarity and linguistic accuracy take precedence.

Seminars are assessed externally, according to the 7-point grading scale. Writing and spelling skills are part of the overall assessment of the thesis. However, the academic content is weighed more heavily.

Re-exam

Re-exam in a seminar is not possible within the same semester as the seminar is offered. If a seminar is offered again a subsequent semester, the student can register again and must thereby meet the prerequisites again. The student is not guaranteed a seat upon re-registration.

If a seminar is not offered again or the student does not get a seat on the seminar upon re-registration, the student can write a seminar paper with a synopsis. The student must hand in a synopsis (5 standard pages) prior to handing in the seminar assignment. The synopsis must be submitted one month after the start of the semester. Once the synopsis has been approved, the student has 3 months to write the seminar paper (15 normal pages). This applies from spring semester 2024. The exact procedure and deadlines are described on study information pages in KUnet.

Synopsis requirements, applicable to all re-exam seminar papers:

The student must write a synopsis for the seminar paper, i.e., a brief presentation of the topic, problem statement and mode of investigation to be used in the paper. In addition, the student must summarize at least three research papers with relevance for the seminar paper, as well as briefly explain how the seminar paper will build on the summarized papers. The synopsis must be approved before the student can write the seminar paper.

Language

English

6.3.4 Academic Internship Abroad

Content

The student can choose to take an academic internship abroad during the Master's program in Economics, comprising 30 ECTS credits. An academic internship falls within the category of non-constituent restrictive electives.

The purpose of academic internship abroad is to provide students with professional experience in:

- Obtaining relevant international professional experience within diplomacy, which is challenging to attain through other means
- Unfolding and expanding their economic and general academic skills
- Strengthening the student's prospects in the international job market

The academic internship abroad must be academically relevant to the Master's program in Economics. Such a program can only take place in organizations listed in the following positive list, where academic work is conducted, and where there is employed academic staff capable of providing professionally relevant supervision:

- Danish official representations abroad (e.g., embassies and consulates)
- Other countries' official foreign representations outside Denmark (e.g., Swedish, or German embassies and consulates)
- UN organisations based outside of Denmark
- EU organisations (EU Commission, European Parliament, Council of Europe)
- The World Bank and regional development banks (e.g., Asian Development Bank)
- IMF
- OECD
- WTO
- ECB
- BIS

The list of approved places is limited to organizations relevant for economists, where experience in the field is challenging to obtain through student jobs and volunteer work in Denmark.

Academic internship at international companies and NGOs cannot be approved. Similarly, academic internship in Denmark cannot be approved.

Learning Outcome

At the end of the academic internship, students are expected to be able to:

Knowledge

- Demonstrate knowledge of and analytic insight into the institution at which the internship is conducted

Skills

- Apply and discuss for relevant economic theories and methods in a practical context
- Summarize and analyse a topic in a well-structured written assignment
- Carry out and implement economic-based analysis in a practical context

Competencies

- Identify how economic competencies can be applied in an international workplace and use them for concrete problem-solving
- Reflect on the relationship between economic theory and its practical application in an international work setting
- Critically and independently reflect on and discuss applied economic theories and methods for a chosen topic

Formal requirements

Pre-Approval

The student must complete and sign an application for pre-approval of the academic internship. The agreement aims to ensure that the program is as well-thought-out as possible, including tasks, working hours, contact person, as well as the practical and formal framework.

The agreement for the academic internship is a written agreement between the department, the student, and the workplace, outlining the rights and obligations during the stay. An academic internship must, at a minimum, correspond to 5 months of full-time work, equivalent to 30 ECTS. The academic internship must receive pre-approval from the Head of Studies.

Problem statement and project report

Within 2 months of the commencement of the academic internship, the student must submit a problem statement for the project report (week 41 in the autumn and week 11 in the spring). The problem statement is to be submitted to the internal supervisor, who must approve it. The problem statement may be adjusted in agreement with the supervisor if needed during the academic internship.

Requirements for the problem statement:

- The problem statement must be based on and be relevant to the project, the workplace, and the focus area of the workplace
- The problem statement must address a relevant societal issue.
- The problem statement must be rooted in a central economic question and involve relevant economic theory and/or empirical data

An approved problem statement is a prerequisite for submitting the project report for assessment.

Requirements for the project report:

In the project report, the student is expected to:

- Address the problem statement using economic literature and methodology (the central part of the assignment)
- Account for the workplace and the tasks carried out during the academic internship
- Present the overall academic outcome, acquired skills, and insights gained during the academic internship

Registration and submission

Students register by applying for pre-approval.

The exact procedure is described on the study information page for Academic Internship on KUnet. Submission takes place in Digital Exam. Exceeding the submission deadline means that the assignment will not be assessed, and a used examination attempt will be recorded. The student then can register for a re-exam, where the same requirements for the project report apply.

Teaching Method and Guidance

Academic Internship at a workplace and supervision.

Internal Supervisor

Students must enter into a supervision agreement with a full-time teacher at the Department of Economics. Student may receive up to 5 sessions of 30 minutes, equivalent to one meeting per month, with the internal supervisor. The supervision should be based on the problem statement and the content of the project report.

The internal supervisor must have the opportunity to review the contract between the student and the workplace, as well as the tasks the student is expected to perform at the workplace before the agreement is finalized.

External Supervisor

Students must be assigned an external academic supervisor employed at the workplace. The external supervisor is responsible for supervise practical tasks at the workplace and for drafting a contract between the workplace and the student outlining the tasks the student can expect to perform. The external supervisor continuously develops and evaluates the academic work with the student in accordance with the expected learning outcomes.

Type of Examination and other exam regulations

An individual written assignment (report). 30 ECTS.

The scope of the project report is 15-20 standard pages (of 2400 characters each).

Exam requirements: Students must have received a pre-approval for the academic internship and be registered for the academic internship to participate in the exam. Additionally, the student must submit a problem statement two months into the program.

Aids: All aids allowed

Marking scale: passed/not passed

Re-exam: Same as the ordinary exam.

Criteria for exam assessment: The project report is assessed based on the description of the learning outcome for academic internships (knowledge, skills, and competencies).

Censorship form: No external censorship

Language

English

6.2.5 Co-curricular Written Assignments

A co-curricular assignment substitutes ECTS credits in the group of restrictive electives.

Purpose and Description of Objectives

Co-curricular written assignments are available for students who want to enhance their knowledge and competencies in a particular course. Students are allowed to write a maximum of two assignments of this kind during their Master's programme.

The rules for deadlines are posted on the study pages at KUnet.

Learning Outcome

The students should demonstrate their proficiency in the following:

Knowledge

- Reflect critically and independently upon, and discuss, the economic theory and method within the chosen area of study.

Skills

- Apply relevant theories and methods to a selected area of study.
- Be able to independently summarize and analyze a topic in a well-structured written report.

Competencies

- Independently identify and select relevant theories to examine a chosen area of study.
- Independently select, analyze, and apply academic literature relevant to a specific problem statement.

Registration, Submission and Supervision

Students register by submitting a registration form to the study administration (available in the study pages at KUnet).

Students should enter into supervision agreements with one of the full-time lecturers at the Department of Economics or an affiliated part-time lecturer, a PhD-student, or a post doc. In the case of exceptional circumstances, students can have an external supervisor. No actual supervision

is provided for co-curricular written assignments, but the supervisor is expected to assist with literature suggestions and the structuring of content and time use.

Assignments prescribed to up to 5 ECTS credits must be submitted no later than two months after the registration date, while assignments prescribed to 5.5 ECTS or more must be submitted no later than four months after the registration date.

The assignment must be submitted in Digital Exam.

Formal requirements

The length of co-curricular written assignments depends on the prescribed number of ECTS credits.

The requirements for the number of pages for co-curricular written assignments are as follows:

- 0.5 ECTS = 1–1.5 standard pages
- 1 ECTS = 2–3 standard pages
- 2.5 ECTS = 5–7.5 standard pages
- 5 ECTS = 10–15 standard pages
- 7.5 ECTS = 20–25 standard pages

If the assignment is prescribed to another number of ECTS than those listed above, the amount of pages is calculated based on the number of pages for a 1 ECTS credit assignment.

A standard page is defined as 2,400 keystrokes including spaces. See section 6.8 of the Curricula's Common Part for an overview of what is included in the keystroke count.

The assignment may be written by up to two students. If two students co-write the assignment, they must do so in a way that allows for their individual contributions to be assessed individually. The foreword/introduction and table of contents must all clearly identify with which paragraphs each author contributed. The introduction and conclusion, as well as any sub-conclusions and/or summaries, may be written collectively. However, no more than 20 % of the assignment may be co-written.

For assignments written by two students, the number of pages is multiplied by 1.5.

Type of Examination

The supervisor assesses assignments prescribed to up to 5 ECTS with a Pass/Fail grade.

Assignments prescribed to 5.5 ECTS or more are assessed externally and graded according to the 7-point grading scale.

About the second and third exam attempts

Same as for ordinary examination.

6.2.6 Re-exam Paper in Electives

Purpose

A re-exam paper can only be written by students who have been registered for an elective course that they did not pass. It is a prerequisite that any exam prerequisite requirements are met. The re-exam paper is only an option if an elective course is not offered on a regular basis and either canceled or postponed.

Please note: From spring semester 2024 re-exams papers is only an option in electives.

The re-exam form in seminars will be a seminar paper with a synopsis. See section 6.2.3.

Registration, Submission and Supervision

If an elective course is canceled or postponed, the student will be contacted by the study administration and offered to write a re-exam paper.

In other exceptional circumstances, the student may apply for an exemption to write a re-exam paper.

The re-exam paper is initiated at the beginning of the semester, respectively 1 September (autumn) or 1 February (spring)).

The assignment must be submitted in Digital Exam and the student has 4 months to write it.

The examiner is the teacher of the elective course. The Head of Studies can appoint a different examiner. No actual supervision is provided for a re-exam paper, but the examiner is expected to assist with literature suggestions and the structuring of content and time use.

Type of Examination

The student is assessed based on the learning outcome in the respective elective.

In the re-exam paper, students should demonstrate their proficiency in the following:

Knowledge

- Reflect critically and independently upon, and discuss, the economic theory and method within the chosen area of study.
- Demonstrate knowledge of advanced aspects of a chosen subject within economic theory and its applications, including knowledge of theories and / or methods related to the subject.

Skills

- Select and apply relevant theories and methods on a selected area of study.
- Be able to independently summarize and analyze a topic in a well-structured written report.

Competencies

- Independently select, analyze, and apply academic literature relevant to a specific problem statement.

Formal requirements

Are-exam paper can only be written individually.

The length of re-exam paper is 20–25 standard pages. A standard page is defined as 2,400 keystrokes including spaces. See section 6.8 of the Curricula's Common Part for an overview of what is included in the keystroke count.

Assessment

Re-exam papers are assessed in the same way as the elective in which it is written.

Language

The re-exam paper must be written in the same language as the electives was offered.