



Programme Curriculum for Master Programme in International Economics with a focus on China

1. Identification

Name of programme	Master Programme in International Economics with a focus on China
Scope of programme	60 ECTS
Level	Master level
Programme code	EAGCH
Decision details	Board of the School of Economics and Management, 13 April, 2007
Amendment details	Board of the School of Economics and Management, 19 December, 2007, 10 April, 2008, 16 June, 2011, 5 March 2014, 23 October 2015, 18 October 2016

2. Programme description

This one-year master's programme builds directly upon previous studies in economics and economic history at the undergraduate level, and prepares students for qualified positions within the private and public sectors.

Economists working on China-related issues invariably need both broad theoretical knowledge of economics/economic history as well as extensive knowledge of the country's economic institutions, such as institutional arrangements at the micro-level and the business environment.

The programme is designed to ensure that students who have completed their degree will have a sound knowledge in the basic methods of advanced economics/economic history, which is complemented by in-depth knowledge of the Chinese economy and China's role in the Asia Pacific and the global economy. To this end the programme is structured so that students take 15 credits from a block of core courses offered by the department of Economics or Economic History. This is followed by 22.5 credits in specialised courses focusing on China's economy and one elective course (7.5 credits) giving students the opportunity to choose one area of specialisation in international economics or economic history. Finally, the students write a 15 credit essay, where the knowledge they have obtained from their course work will be combined to enable an analysis of a specific problem. A more detailed description of the programme is given below.

Career opportunities

The labour market for economists with a specialisation in International Economics is naturally broadening in an increasingly globalised world. Intensifying trade relations and cross country investment flows with East Asia, and particularly China as the new growth pole of the Asia-Pacific region, create a constant demand for economists with strong expertise on China's economy.

Currently, qualified economists are in short supply. Only few European Universities are in the position to offer a specialised degree, which combines both a solid education in International Economics and in-depth knowledge of China's economy. Graduates from this programme will therefore have an outstanding chance of employment in the national and international labour markets.

Prospective employers are internationally operating companies, various areas of the financial sector, such as commercial banks, insurance companies, stock exchanges, government authorities and public institutions such as the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Industry, Employment and Communications, and the National Institute of Economic Research. Furthermore, graduates will be qualified for employment at private research centres. Many international institutions have a constant demand for economists, for example the UN, ILO, EU, ECB, OECD, IMF, the World Bank and various aid agencies such as SIDA.

Connection to further studies

Students who complete the one-year programme can apply to the two-year Master Programme in Economics if they satisfy the entrance requirements. In such cases the relevant courses that have already been taken will be credited within the two-year programme. Students can also apply for postgraduate studies at the doctoral level in economic history or in economics (if they satisfy the entrance requirements) after completion of the programme.

3. Learning outcomes

The programme aims to provide students with a deepened and thorough knowledge of the field of International Economics with a specific application of China's economy. Students will be familiarised with modern economic theories, concepts, techniques, and their applications. Important objectives are to give students the basic tools necessary at this level to investigate economic problems, to give them specialised knowledge in their specific field of interest, and to enable them to apply their theoretical knowledge to analyse and solve research questions related the Chinese economy. Fruitful research on China's economy does not only include the use of the standard economic tool-kit of economic theories and concepts. It is also crucial to have an understanding of China's institutions, an ability to appropriately model these institutions, and in-depth knowledge of the country specific problems of data generation and analysis. The programme builds on previous studies at the undergraduate level in subject matters related to international economics.

In accordance with the Higher Education Ordinance, the Degree of Master (One Year) is awarded to students who at the completion of the programme accomplish the following:

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding within the field of international economics with a focus on China, including both a broad command of the field and deeper knowledge of certain parts of the field, together with insight into current research and development work; and
- demonstrate deeper methodological knowledge in the field of international economics with a focus on China

Skills and abilities

- demonstrate an ability to integrate knowledge and to analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations, even when limited information is available;
- demonstrate an ability to independently identify and formulate issues and to plan and, using appropriate methods, carry out advanced tasks within specified time limits;
- 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;
- demonstrate an ability to work in multi-cultural teams;

- demonstrate the skill required to participate in research and development work or to work in other advanced contexts.

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate an ability to make assessments within international economics with a focus on China, 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; and - demonstrate an ability to identify their need of further knowledge and to take responsibility for developing their knowledge.

Independent project (degree project)

For a Degree of Master (One Year) students must have completed an independent project (degree project) worth at least 15 higher education credits in international economics with a focus on China, within the framework of the course requirements.

4. Course information

Introductory week

Due to the highly specialised character of the programme and the expected diversity of participating students (with different backgrounds and previous knowledge about China's economy), the programme will start with a one-week introductory workshop. The workshop will serve two objectives: First of all, it provides a broad overview of relevant issues covering social, political, legal, historical and economic aspects related to China's economic development. In this sense, the workshop will develop a common basis, from where the specialised courses will start. Second, the workshop will create certain sense of group identity for the participants. This is important, as most of the study programme will be shared and co-taught with other Master's programmes.

The programme

The programme contains three types of courses. All courses consist of 7.5 ECTS credits, except the thesis which consists of 15 ECTS credits.

- a) **Core courses.** This block includes three courses: "The Chinese Economy", "Institutions, Markets and Firms in a Chinese Context" and "China and the Asia Pacific Economy". The three courses combined provide a profound knowledge of China's economic macro-policies, micro-level development of markets and firms and China's embeddedness into the Asia Pacific growth region.
- b) **Specialisation courses.** This block contains two courses, "Advanced Microeconomic Analysis" and "Advanced Econometrics", for students who specialise in economics within the programme. For students who chose economic history as their general orientation, the block consists of "Econometrics" and "Research Design".
- c) **Elective courses.** These are courses at the advanced level in the fields of International Economics and Economic History at the School of Economics and Management or at the University.

Schematic representation of studies

Semester 1 (Autumn)		Semester 2 (Spring)	
Period 1 Sept-Oct	Period 2 Nov-Dec	Period 3 Jan-March	Period 4 April-May
The Chinese Economy	Specialisation course	Institutions, Markets and Firms in a Chinese Context	Essay (15 credits)
Specialisation course	China and the Asia Pacific Economy	Elective course	

Courses available in the programme

The following list of courses summarises the suggested study programme.

Core courses

The Chinese Economy
 Institutions, Markets and Firms in a Chinese Context
 China and the Asia Pacific Economy

Specialisation courses (Economics)

Advanced Econometrics
 Advanced Microeconomic Analysis

Specialisation courses (Economic History)

Econometrics
 Research Design or alternative course in Economic History

Elective courses

The following courses give a summary of suggested electives. Other electives might be possible to attend depending on the students' specialisation and qualification. It is expected, however, that most students will follow the recommended courses.

Electives (Economics)

Advanced Trade Theory
 Economic Integration, Advanced Course
 Time Series Analysis

Electives (Economic History)

Comparative Analysis of Economic Change
 Consequences of Demographic Change
 Human Capital in a Historical Perspective
 Institutions, Economic Growth and Equality
 Time Series Analysis
 Innovation, Energy and Sustainability

5. Degree

Upon completion of the programme a Master of Science in Business and Economics (60 credits) major International Economics with a focus on China (*Ekonomie magisterexamen, huvudområde: internationell ekonomi med fokus på Kina*) will be awarded in compliance with the National Higher Education Ordinance (SFS 2006:1053).

Students can alternatively apply for a Master of Science (60 credits) major in International Economics focus with a focus on China (*Filosofie magisterexamen, huvudområde: internationell ekonomi med fokus på Kina*).

6. Admission requirements and selection criteria

An undergraduate degree (BA/BSc) with at least 60 ECTS credits in economics, economic history or the equivalent. For students with an undergraduate degree in economics, these credits must include courses in intermediate microeconomics and econometrics (quantitative methods) or the equivalent knowledge. English 6.

Selection criteria

Selection will be based on academic merits from university studies. This implies that an assessment will be made of the grades for previous studies at the undergraduate level.

7. Other information

Courses at the School of Economics and Management are graded according to the criterion-referenced principal grades A-F:

GRADE		POINTS	CHARACTERISTIC
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.

It is up to the teaching professor to decide whether the credits of a course should be converted into a total of 100 points for each course, or if the scale above should be used as percentage points of any chosen scale instead.

Disciplinary actions against plagiarism

The University views plagiarism very seriously, and will take disciplinary actions against students for any kind of attempted malpractice in examinations and assessments. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other unfair practice in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University.