



School of Economics and Management

EEH028F, Data Management, 7.5 credits

Datahantering, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Third Cycle / Doktorandnivå

Details of approval

Approved by the Board of the Department of Economic History, Lund University School of Economics and Management 2021-03-09.

General Information

This is an optional course at the PhD programme.

The language of instruction is English.

Learning outcomes

On a general level, the student shall acquire advanced knowledge of the use and management of micro-level demographic data. More specifically, the students will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- develop knowledge and understanding of different types of micro-level data and their appropriateness for a specific research question
- develop knowledge and understanding of how to align data with theory
- develop knowledge and understanding of different types of variables and their appropriateness for a specific research question

Competence and skills

- assess the quality of data, clean data, handle missing data
- create different types of variables
- combine datasets
- develop programs
- document variable construction to facilitate replication
- create datasets for analysis using raw micro-level demographic data
- present the results in oral and/or written form

Judgement of approach

- critically assess and process micro-level demographic data for testing specific theories and answering research questions

Course content

To carry out a research project, raw datasets need to be selected and manipulated to create variables that are appropriate to the research question, and the data needs to be formatted in the way that is required for the statistical analysis to be used. The aim of this course is to provide students with advanced knowledge on the use and management of micro-level demographic data. The course will be primarily hands-on and different types of datasets will be employed. The appropriate selection of datasets and variables to answer a research question will be discussed, as well as issues of data quality, data cleaning and the handling of missing data. During each meeting, the necessary steps to create different types of variables will be shown. The course is designed as a tutorial where the student attends meetings and conducts independent work, which will be discussed with the instructor and other students in the group.

Course design

The course is designed as a series of group meetings. During each meeting, theoretical discussions about different aspects of data selection and management will be made, and the steps needed for the handling of data will be shown. In preparation to each meeting, students will work on independent assignments. At the end of the course, students will individually conduct a project where they will define a research question and manipulate a raw dataset to create the necessary variables to answer such question. In addition, students will produce a report, which defines the research question, discusses how variables are selected and/or created and shows descriptive statistics. Students will present their work to the group and comment on each other's work.

Assessment

Grading is based on individual performance via written assignments, papers, presentations and other compulsory activities. The examination is continuous. In this tutorial, equal emphasis is placed on the active participation in discussions at the group meetings and oral presentations. Examination may draw on teaching as well as the course literature.

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.

Grading scale

Marking scale: Fail or Pass.

Prerequisites

PhD students applying for this course should have at least 60 credit points in either economic history, business administration, economic and social geography, economics, history or the equivalent knowledge.

Further information

This course cannot be included in the same degree as EKHT24.