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EKONOMIHÖGSKOLAN
Lunds universitet

Research policy institute

Syllabus for the Third Cycle Programme for the degree of Licentiate in Research Policy at Lund University

The syllabus for the Programme for the degree of Licentiate in Research Policy was adopted by the Board of the School of Economics and Management on 13 April 2007. See also Instructions for Third Cycle Studies at the School of Economics and Management, adopted on 13 April 2007, Reg No EHL 2007/66.

At the Research Policy Institute (RPI) research and teaching are conducted into the social, political, and economic dimensions of the dynamics of knowledge and science, into technological and industrial development and the risks and threats associated with such development. The relationships between academia, corporations, public authorities and nongovernmental organisations as regards developments in knowledge, technology and industry constitute a central field of research at the RPI.

Third cycle studies are offered to the extent that available resources allow.

1 Learning outcomes

The aim of the third cycle programme at the Research Policy Institute is to provide in-depth knowledge within the following three subject areas, which partly overlap and are that at the Institute are combined under the title of Research Policy:

- (A) Science policy, research organisation & management
- (B) Science and technology for development
- (C) Studies of science and technology in society

The purpose of the degree programme is to educate independent and creative researchers who have broad knowledge of the theories within the subject areas and the methodological skills and ability to formulate and manage research projects. Students shall be able to effectively communicate basic knowledge within the subject areas, as well as knowledge acquired on the degree programme. In their thesis work students shall study in-depth a theory, methodology and/or application in such a way that they acquire the necessary understanding for contributing to the research area in question. Students shall also fulfil the aims stated in the syllabi for the compulsory components of the programme.

Third cycle studies at the RPI result in a degree of Licentiate when 120 higher education credits have been awarded (see Section 4).

The degree programme aims for high quality through maintaining strong connections:

- to cutting-edge research fields through the use of a critical approach,

- between the specific thesis subject and its more general scholarly context,
- between different scholarly disciplines relevant to the subject areas,
- to the international context, as regards the choice of perspectives, theories and methodologies, and through contacts with international researchers and research environments,
- between the academic and practical dimensions of the subject areas.

Study and vocational guidance for third cycle students is organised by the institute and carried out by the supervisors.

2 Admission requirements

An applicant is eligible for third cycle studies if he or she fulfils the basic eligibility requirements and the special requirements, as well as being judged to possess the potential to benefit from the education.

Students who are admitted according to the earlier provisions have basic eligibility if they have graduated from a degree programme comprising at least 120 credits according to the earlier provisions, or if they have the equivalent knowledge. An applicant is also eligible if he or she has acquired the equivalent knowledge in some other way, either in Sweden or abroad.

2.1 Basic eligibility

An applicant has basic eligibility for third cycle studies if he or she has been awarded a second cycle degree, has completed course requirements of at least 240 higher education credits, including at least 60 higher education credits at the second cycle level, or has acquired the equivalent knowledge in some other way, either in Sweden or abroad (Higher Education Ordinance Chapter 7 Section 39).

2.2 Special eligibility

An applicant has special eligibility if he or she has completed 90 higher education credits in a subject that is relevant to Research Policy and has completed an essay worth at least 15 credits, or has acquired the equivalent knowledge in some other way, either in Sweden or abroad.

2.3 Prerequisite knowledge

Oral and written presentations in English are an important part of the degree programme. The ability to fully understand and to write scholarly texts in English is therefore a prerequisite for completing the programme.

3 Admission and selection

Applications for admission to the third cycle degree programme should be submitted to the Head of Department. Selection among the applicants will be based on the applicant's ability to benefit from the programme. The selection criteria are the quality of the applicant's earlier work and the applicant's research plan. Interviews may also be used.

Lund University is striving to attain a more equal distribution of gender, as well as ethnic and social diversity (see the equality policy for Lund University). The RPI therefore welcomes applications from women as well as from men, and from native Swedes as well as from people born in other countries.

Before beginning their studies students shall register and specify their proposed level of activity. Studies must be pursued at least on a half-time basis, unless there are reasons for a lower degree of activity connected to the social security system.

4 Programme information

The degree programme is intended for a study period of a maximum of four years. This requires that the student pursues his or her studies on a full-time basis and utilizes the time effectively. When a student also works in the department (maximum 20% of full time) the study period will be extended accordingly.

The programme comprises 120 higher education credits, divided into a literature section of 30 credits and a licentiate thesis of 90 credits.

The Head of the RPI is responsible for the third cycle degree programme and makes decisions in consultation with the Board of the Institute. The Board includes representatives from teachers, research students, students on the first or second cycle programmes and the administrative staff.

4.1 Supervision

A supervision group comprising three teachers – principal supervisor, assistant supervisor and one additional member – is established for each student. The principal supervisor shall be appointed at the time of admission and should be qualified at least as a reader, as well as having completed a training course for supervisors and be permanently associated with the RPI. The principal supervisor bears the main responsibility for the progress of thesis work and for ensuring that the licentiate thesis meets the quality requirements. The assistant supervisor is appointed at the time of specifying the subject of the thesis. This should be a person that is well acquainted with the subject, irrespective of where he or she works. The third member of the supervision group is to take part in the introductory discussions regarding the aim of the thesis and in reading the final manuscript. In the intervening time this member shall, in a more general way, follow the progress of the work. The third member of the group may also be a person employed by another department, a public authority or a company.

4.2 Individual study plan

At the beginning of the study period an individual study plan will be drawn up by the student in collaboration with the supervisor. The plan should contain an outline for the study period and include an approximate schedule for the different components of the thesis work and the courses. The plan should be more detailed for the current year and more general for the subsequent years. The plan is to be revised and followed up every year. It should regulate the student's commitments as well as the obligations of the RPI towards the student.

The Head of the RPI revises the student's study plan every year in consultation with the supervisors at the Institute, in order to ensure that studies are proceeding in an acceptable manner. Additionally, the Head of the RPI must submit the study plans to the Board of the School of Economics and Management on a yearly basis. If a student seriously neglects his/her commitments according to the individual study plan his/her entitlement to supervision and other resources may be withdrawn (Higher Education Ordinance Chapter 8 Section 10). This requires a decision by the Board of the School of Economics and Management.

A student or a supervisor who believes that the other party has neglected his/her commitments as regards supervision and the studies specified in the study plan may appeal to the RPI. Appeals can be directed to the Board of the School of Economics and Management (or the equivalent).

4.3 Teaching

The student is entitled to receive instruction in the form of seminars and teacher-led courses. The RPI is entitled to demand that the student participates actively in the instruction provided.

All research students should have the opportunity to participate in the university's teacher training course in teaching and learning in higher education, and those involved in teaching shall participate in at least two weeks of the university's course in teaching and learning in higher education.

4.3.1 Compulsory components

The compulsory part of the programme comprises an introductory block in Research Policy and is worth 15 credits. It contains

- an overview of the subject area's research paradigm and practice (7 credits)
- methodology (5 credits)
- an introduction to any of RPI's research areas (3 credits)

4.3.2 Optional courses and literature courses

The optional part of the programme is worth 15 credits and comprises courses intended to provide in-depth knowledge or specialisation in some sub-areas of the subject areas and their theoretical and methodological areas. The optional courses may be

- third cycle courses given within or outside the Institute and
- individual literature courses.

4.4 Research seminars and conferences

The student is expected to participate actively in the scholarly activities of the Institute, such as seminars, and to present his/her own research at the RPI's research seminars at least once a term.

One aim of third cycle studies is to become part of the scholarly community and thus to participate in scholarly exchanges within the research field, nationally as well as internationally. Therefore the student is expected to attend relevant conferences in the subject areas. Selection of conferences should be made in consultation with the supervisors (see below).

The student should also present his or her research at conferences and in other departments. RPI's research students are expected to take the opportunity to study at other departments – preferably abroad – during one term of the programme.

5 Teaching and examination

Instruction is carried out through lectures, seminars and supervision. The methods of teaching and examination may vary between courses; the compulsory components are assessed by the course examiner and a written assignment at the end of the course is the most important component. Teaching will be held in English when non-Swedish-speaking students participate. Other courses given at Lund University or other universities (including universities abroad) may, if the Head of the RPI consents, be included in the degree programme.

The examiner for the optional parts of the programme should be a teacher at the Institute who holds a doctoral degree and who is appointed by the Head of the RPI. The examiner should be someone other than the supervisor or the assistant supervisor. The optional part comprises courses selected in consultation with the examiner, so that they cover a satisfactory breadth and depth in the subject areas.

The licentiate thesis should be based on independent scholarly work and comprise 90 higher education credits. It may either be a coherent scholarly work - a monograph - or a compilation thesis consisting of a collection of articles with a summary. A work by two or more authors can be approved as a licentiate thesis if each student's individual contribution is specified in order for it to be individually assessed.

The licentiate thesis is defended orally at a public seminar. The licentiate thesis will be awarded the grade Pass or Fail. Grading is based on the content of the licentiate thesis as well as the public defence.

Further information regarding the thesis, public defence and the grading committee is given in *Instructions for third cycle studies at the School of Economics and Management*, reg no EHL 2007/66.