

Institutional and Game Theoretical Analysis

Single subject and programme course

15 credits

Institutionell och spelteoretisk analys

730A09

Valid from:

Determined by

The Quality Board at the Faculty of Arts
and Sciences

Date determined

2010-11-23

Main field of study

Economics

Course level

Second cycle

Advancement level

A1X

Course offered for

- International Business and Economics Programme
- Business and Economics Programme

Entry requirements

completed Economics 3.

Intended learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- demonstrate advanced knowledge of institutional and game-theoretical theory and method,
- critically review and objectively relate to institutional and game-theoretical research,
- apply institutional and game-theoretical theory in the analysis of economic problems and in policy analysis.

Course content

The course will comprise as well as combine institutional theory and game theory, where the game theory functions as a tool and a formal starting point for institutional analysis. During the course, game theory will be used to interpret strategic behaviour and strategic situations given institutional restrictions, such as values, norms, contracts, governance structures, regulations and organisational forms. The question of how various types of institutions answer incentive, information and rationality issues that have been noticed and analysed in game theory is central to the course. The course participants will also learn the bases of designing games that are adapted to analysing both static and dynamic strategic situations in economics and policy.

Institutional theory will be used in the course to analyse the effects that institutions have on economic and political outcomes and on the behaviour of actors. In this respect, concepts such as transaction costs, ownership, the tragedy of the commons, rent seeking, trust, opportunistic behaviour, principal agent, governance structures and regulations are central. In addition, the driving forces of institutional change and economic transformation will be covered. Lastly covered is the question of how people act and interact in a complex world and how institutions can be shown to be a response to limited rationality, limited information and behavioural bias that can be perceived as irrationality.

Teaching and working methods

The teaching takes the form of lectures, exercise sessions, literature and case seminars. The students should also study independently.

Examination

The course is examined through a test, active participation in the literature seminars and through written seminar reports. Detailed information can be found in the study guide.

Grades

Three-grade scale, U, G, VG

Other information

Planning and implementation of a course must take its starting point in the wording of the syllabus. The course evaluation included in each course must therefore take up the question how well the course agrees with the syllabus. The course is carried out in such a way that both men's and women's experience and knowledge is made visible and developed.

Department

Institutionen för ekonomisk och industriell utveckling