

Decision Theory

Beslutsteori

6 credits

Programme course

732A66

Valid from: 2025 Autumn semester

Determined by	Main field of study	
The Quality Board at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences	Statistics	
Date determined	Course level	Progressive specialisation
2016-09-30	Second cycle	A1F
Revised by	Disciplinary domain	
Chairman of the Course and Programme Syllabus Board at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences	Technology	
Revision date	Subject group	
2022-06-15; 2024-09-30	Statistics	
Offered first time	Offered for the last time	
Autumn semester 2016		
Department	Replaced by	
Institutionen för datavetenskap		

Course offered for

- Master's Programme in Statistics and Machine Learning

Entry requirements

- Bachelor's degree equivalent to a Swedish Kandidatexamen of 180 ECTS credits in one of the following subjects:
 - statistics
 - mathematics
 - applied mathematics
 - computer science
 - engineering
- Completed courses in
 - calculus
 - linear algebra
 - statistics
 - programming
- English corresponding to the level of English in Swedish upper secondary education (Engelska 6)
Exemption from Swedish
- At least 24 ECTS credits passed in the main field of Statistics at second cycle and at least 5 ECTS credits passed in the main field of Computer Science at second cycle

Intended learning outcomes

After completion the course, the student should on an advanced level be able to:

- use statistical methods for decision making,
- apply the principles for subjective probability interpretation, Bayesian inference, utility theory and sequential analysis in order to make a decision,
- critical assess the presumptions for each step in a decision making process

Course content

The course content comprises:

- The subjective interpretation of probabilities
- Probabilistic reasoning and likelihood theory,
- Bayesian hypothesis evaluation,
- Decision theoretic elements
- Utility and loss functions
- Graphical modelling as a tool for decision making
- Sequential analysis

Teaching and working methods

Assignments encompassing both theoretical and computer-based exercises. One final oral examination.

Detailed information about the examination can be found in the course's study guide.

Examination

Assignments encompassing both theoretical and computer-based exercises. One final oral examination.

Detailed information about the examination can be found in the course's study guide.

If special circumstances prevail, and if it is possible with consideration of the nature of the compulsory component, the examiner may decide to replace the compulsory component with another equivalent component.

If the LiU coordinator for students with disabilities has granted a student the right to an adapted examination for a written examination in an examination hall, the student has the right to it.

If the coordinator has recommended for the student an adapted examination or alternative form of examination, the examiner may grant this if the examiner assesses that it is possible, based on consideration of the course objectives.

An examiner may also decide that an adapted examination or alternative form of examination if the examiner assessed that special circumstances prevail, and the examiner assesses that it is possible while maintaining the objectives of the course.

Students failing an exam covering either the entire course or part of the course twice are entitled to have a new examiner appointed for the reexamination.

Students who have passed an examination may not retake it in order to improve their grades.

Grades

ECTS, EC

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 conducted in such a way that there are equal opportunities with regard to sex, transgender identity or expression, ethnicity, religion or other belief, disability, sexual orientation and age.

If special circumstances prevail, the vice-chancellor may in a special decision specify the preconditions for temporary deviations from this course syllabus, and delegate the right to take such decisions.

About teaching and examination language

The teaching language is presented in the Overview tab for each course. The examination language relates to the teaching language as follows:

- If teaching language is “Swedish”, the course as a whole could be given in Swedish, or partly, or as a whole, in English. Examination language is Swedish, but parts of the examination can be in English.
- If teaching language is “English”, the course as a whole is taught in English. Examination language is English.
- If teaching language is “Swedish/English”, the course as a whole will be taught in English if students without prior knowledge of the Swedish language participate. Examination language is Swedish or English depending on teaching language.