

Agent-Based Modelling

Single subject and programme course

7.5 credits

Agentbaserad modellering

771A21

Valid from: 2019 Spring semester

Determined by

The Quality Board at the Faculty of Arts
and Sciences

Date determined

2017-10-20

Main field of study

Computational Social Science

Course level

Second cycle

Advancement level

A1X

Course offered for

- Master's Programme in Computational Social Science

Entry requirements

A bachelor's degree or equivalent in the humanities, social-, cultural-, behavioural-, natural-, computer-, or engineering-sciences.

English corresponding to the level of English in Swedish upper secondary education (English 6/B).

Intended learning outcomes

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

- Describe key applications of agent-based simulation modeling (ABM) in the social sciences;
- Explain the logic behind and the explanatory role of agent-based modeling;
- Design and program different types of agent-based models;
- Run agent-based computational experiments;
- Evaluate the results of agent-based simulations through various forms of statistical sensitivity analyses.

Course content

Agent-based modeling is a methodology for analyzing how groups of interacting individuals or other types of agents bring about various macro outcomes. This course provides a detailed introduction to the agent-based modelling (ABM) technique. The course covers all the steps in the process of developing an ABM, from theoretical design to model implementation and model evaluation. During intensive computer labs, ABMs are implemented using object-oriented programming, including the treatment of variables, commands, and procedures. The course includes practical work with various types of computer-based experiments, as well as methods for evaluating the robustness of simulation results using various statistical sensitivity analyses.

Teaching and working methods

The teaching consists of lectures, readings, computer labs and seminars. Homework and independent studies are a necessary complement to the course.

Language of instruction: English

Examination

The course is examined through written assignments, active participation in seminars, completed computer labs, and a final written individual assignment. Detailed information about the examination can be found in the course's study guide.

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 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