

Agent-Based Modelling

Agentbaserad modellering
7.5 credits

Single subject and programme course

771A21

Valid from: 2019 Spring semester

Determined by	Main field of study	
The Quality Board at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences	Computational Social Science	
Date determined	Course level	Progressive specialisation
2017-10-20	Second cycle	A1N
Revised by	Disciplinary domain	
	Technology	
Revision date	Subject group	
	Other Subjects within Social Science	
Offered first time	Offered for the last time	
Spring semester 2019		
Department	Replaced by	
Institutionen för ekonomisk och industriell utveckling		

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.

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.