



Programme syllabus

Agricultural, Food and Environmental Policy Analysis (AFEPA) - Master's Programme

Policyanalys inom jordbruk, miljö och livsmedel (AFEPA) - masterprogram

120.0 hp

Programme code: NM030

Finalized by: Utbildningsnämnden, 2017-10-11

Valid from: Autumn semester 2026 (2026-08-31)

Programme board

The programme board for education in natural resources and agriculture

SLU ID

SLU.ua.2026.3.1.1-77

Revised

2026-01-09

Revised by

The programme board for education in natural resources and agriculture

Entry requirements

Admission to the Master's programme Agricultural, Food and Environmental Policy Analysis requires a first-cycle qualification comprising 180 credits and including specialised studies comprising 90 credits within Economics.

Applicants with the equivalent qualifications obtained by means of a degree from another country, or with the equivalent knowledge obtained in some other way, may also be regarded as fulfilling the specific entry requirements.

This programme is taught in English. The applicant must further have a level of English equivalent to upper secondary school English, called English 6. An applicant with a first-cycle qualification from SLU comprising 180 credits automatically fulfils this requirement. Special rules apply for applicants with qualifications from one of the Nordic countries and some English-speaking countries.

Specific requirements apply for admission to the individual courses included in the programme.

To be admitted to the Agricultural, Food and Environmental Policy Analysis – Master’s programme, the student has to apply through the AFEPA Consortium. For more information on how to apply, please see the AFEPA website, <https://www.ilrl.uni-bonn.de/afepa/en>.

Specific requirements apply for admission to the individual courses included in the programme.

Objectives

General objectives

The general objectives for first- and second-cycle courses and programmes are specified in the Swedish Higher Education Act (Chapter 1, Sections 8–9).

Objectives for a Degree

In accordance with the annex to the Ordinance for the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, for a degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall:

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including both broad knowledge of the field and a considerable degree of specialised knowledge in certain areas of the field as well as insight into current research and development work, and
- demonstrate specialised methodological knowledge in the main field of study.

Competence and skills

- demonstrate the ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations even with limited information
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues critically, autonomously and creatively as well as to plan and, using appropriate methods, undertake advanced tasks

within predetermined time frames and so contribute to the formation of knowledge as well as the ability to evaluate this work

- demonstrate the ability in speech and writing both nationally and internationally to clearly report and discuss his or her conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences, and
- demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development work or autonomous employment in some other qualified capacity.

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the main field of study informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues and also to demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

Degree

Degree awarded on completion of the programme

Upon completion of the programme, the degree of Master of Science is awarded. Other general qualifications may be awarded, provided that the requirements for them are fulfilled. More information can be found in SLU's degree regulations.

Students who fulfil the qualification requirements for a degree will be issued a degree certificate upon request. The degree certificate will specify the qualification as *Degree of Master of Science (120 credits) with a Major in Economics*.

In addition to a degree from SLU, the student has the possibility to apply for a degree (double degree) from one of the other participating universities: Rheinische-Friedrich-Wilhelms Universität Bonn, Germany, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy.

Degree requirements

A **degree of Master of Science (120 credits)** with a major in **economics** is awarded to students who fulfil the course requirements (courses with a Pass grade) of 120 credits, of which at least 90 credits at second-cycle level, according to the following:

- at least 30 credits of courses with specialised study in the main field economics (A1N; A1F),

- at least 30 credits from an independent project (degree project) in the main field economics (A2E).

In addition, the student must hold a degree of Bachelor or professional qualification of at least 180 credits or an equivalent qualification.

Content

Programme description

The Master's programme in Agricultural, Food and Environmental Policy Analysis (AFEPA) aims at providing high quality education in designing and assessing public policies targeted at the agricultural and food sector as well as the rural environment to excellent students from all over the world. This Master's programme responds to the increasing need to better understand and anticipate the various and often complex socio-economic and environmental effects of these policies.

The AFEPA programme offers a two-year academic curriculum with advanced theoretical and-, methodological courses in economics and quantitative methods as well as applied courses in different thematic fields. At the end of the two-year curriculum a Master's thesis is developed and presented.

The AFEPA programme is jointly organised by four European main partner universities: the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (UCSC) in Milano, Italy, the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) in Sweden, the Rheinische-Friedrich-Wilhelms Universität Bonn (UBonn) in Germany, and the Université catholique de Louvain (UCL) in Belgium. These partner universities are recognised worldwide for the quality of their degree programmes and scientific achievements.

Students on the program study one year at one university, one year at another, and meet in between to participate in the mandatory summer schools. More information about the programme is available at the homepage of AFEPA at <https://www.ilrl.uni-bonn.de/afepa/en>.

Courses in the programme

Main fields of study FÖ=Business administration, NA=Economics, LB=Agricultural science, MX=Environmental science, ÖÄ=Other subject

Year 1

Microeconomic theory, 7,5 credits, NA, A1N

Analytical methods, 7,5 credits, NA, A1N

Production economics, 15 credits, NA/FÖ, A1N

Econometric theory, 7,5 credits, NA, A1N

Applied econometrics, 7,5 credits, NA, A1N

Environmental policy, 7,5 credits, NA/MX, A1N

Policy for food system sustainability, 7,5 credits, NA, A1F

Year 2

Corporate finance, 15 credits, FÖ/NA, A1N

Cost benefit analysis of agricultural and environmental projects, 7,5 credits, NA/MX, A1N

Management of biological resources, 7,5 credits, NA/MX, A1N

Economic growth and sustainable development, 7,5 credits, NA, A1F

Experimental methods for economics and business studies, 7,5 credits, FÖ/NA, A1N

Agricultural economics, policy and trade, 7,5 credits, NA, GIF

Topics in agricultural economics for sustainable development, 7,5 credits, NA, A1F

Analysis of productivity and efficiency of food system firms, 7,5 hp, NA, A1N

Master thesis in economics, A2E, 30 credits, NA, A2E

Summer school, 3 credits

Additional courses

AFEPA internship, 7,5 credits, ÖÄ, AXX

The courses offered may change during the course of the programme. Decisions on the courses offered are taken well in advance of the next academic year.

For each course, there is a course syllabus providing more detailed course information. Information on when courses are offered is available on the SLU student web.

Additional information about the programme

General regulations for first- and second-cycle courses and programmes

For more information on semester dates, examination and credit transfer, see the Regulations for education at Bachelor's and Master's level available on the SLU student web.

Possibilities for further studies

Students who complete the programme and are awarded a degree of Master have the option to continue their studies at doctoral level.