



School of Economics and Management

## EHEH001, Designing a PhD project, 7.5 credits

*Forskningsdesign, doktorsavhandling, 7,5 högskolepoäng*  
Third Cycle / Doktorandnivå

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### Details of approval

Approved by the Board of the Department of Economic History, Lund University School of Economics and Management 2013-10-08.

### General Information

This is an optional course at the PhD programme.

The language of instruction is English.

### Learning outcomes

Students shall demonstrate a general ability to assimilate knowledge and skills in an independent research project in economic history. On completion of the course, the doctoral student shall be able to

- identify a relevant research issue and formulate an appropriate research question
- plan an extensive research project that is to result in a doctoral thesis
- select theoretical approaches and empirical methods of relevance to the research issue
- identify and discuss methodological problems related to the research issue
- present a written thesis plan

### Course content

In consultation with his or her supervisors, the doctoral student is to identify a research problem and formulate a research issue that is to be examined in the doctoral thesis, and plan his or her research with regard to theory, data and methodology. Major emphasis is placed on the research design, i. e. how to address the research issue of the thesis by means of theoretical discussion, previous research and empirical material. The planning of the research is to be based on the current guidelines for doctoral theses at the Department of Economic History, and the final stage of the course is a written and oral presentation of the thesis plan.

## Teaching and assessment

The teaching consists of a series of seminars in which ideas at various stages will be discussed by the doctoral students and the course instructors. The thesis plan is an individual assignment, carried out in collaboration with the respective supervisor. There will also be seminars on key elements of the research process throughout the course.

The assessment is based on the written and oral presentation of the thesis plan. The plan should be 15–20 pages long and include the background and justification of the research topic, theoretical approaches, data and methodology, and a discussion that clarifies how the structure enables the student to address the research issue.

## Grades

In accordance with Lund University regulations, the grades awarded are Pass or Fail.

## Admission requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must be admitted to the research studies programme in Economic History.

## Further information

The course replaces the previous course “Research Design and Quantitative Analysis in Economic History” and cannot be included in a degree together with this course.