

## **Dear Economic Analysis student,**

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the two-year Master programme in Economics, *Economic Analysis* and provide you with some initial information regarding your programme as well as your first two courses. I am very happy that you chose this programme and I can assure you that I, together with my colleagues, will make our most to give you a great programme and experience here at JIBS. The covid-19 situation of course implies that this autumn will look a bit different than usual. The courses will mix online education for bigger groups and campus-based education for groups below 50 individuals for as long as the Swedish government enforces that restriction. More up-to-date information about how we adapt to the current situation can be found on our webpage [here](#).

The programme aims to build your competencies to work with economic issues and analyse large quantities of data. The education prepares you for positions demanding specialised analytical and methodological skills in economics. As a result, you as a graduate will have the skills to work closely with the decisions of the various companies / organisations. You will be able to process, analyse data, and pass on these results to your colleagues and managers. These skills are important both in the private sector and in the public sector. After completing the programme, you will thus be well prepared for positions requiring practical and scientific knowledge and the ability to use of this knowledge in new models and methods.

The programme starts up on Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> of August with a formal roll call. Then, these two courses are the first ones you will take.

### **Microeconomic Foundations of Economic and Financial Analysis**

This course will provide you with an introduction to the the behaviour of economic agents and institutions. The main topics covered in the course are:

- The methodology of economic analysis.
- Formal representations of the behaviour of consumers and firms.
- Investment decisions.
- Games and strategic behaviour.
- Competitive market analysis.
- Analysis of oligopolistic markets and markets with asymmetric information.
- Contracts and their incentive properties.

The coverage of the analytical tools in this course enables you to immediately apply such tools to concrete problems and provides the foundations for later courses in the programme.

The literature used in the course consists of one book as well as handouts posted in the web-page of the course:

R. Preston McAfee, Introduction to Economic Analysis. Flat World Knowledge, 2009. ISBN 13: 978-0-9820430-9-7.

The examiner, and main teacher, is Assistant Professor Andrea Schneider ([andrea.schneider@ju.se](mailto:andrea.schneider@ju.se))

The course syllabus for this course can be found [here](#) and the schedule for your programme [here](#).

In parallel to this course you also take a course in mathematics, which provides a good base for later courses in both economics and econometrics.

### **Mathematical Methods for Economic and Financial Analysis:**

In this course you are presented with mathematical tools for economic and financial analysis, including matrix algebra and dynamic mathematical systems. It also focuses on mathematical concepts useful for economics- or finance-focused courses later in the programme.

The contents of this course include:

- Set theory and functions.
- Matrix algebra: addition, multiplication, and inversion of matrices, eigenvalues.
- Constrained optimisation with inequality constraints.
- The envelope theorem.
- Difference equations.
- Differential equations.

The literature used in the course consists of one book, and supplementary material that is provided by the teacher:

Chiang, Alpha C. and Wainwright, Kevin C. (2005) *Fundamental Methods of Mathematical Economics* 4th edition, McGraw Hill [ISBN: 007-123823-9], or later edition.

The examiner and main teacher is Professor Scott Hacker ([scott.hacker@ju.se](mailto:scott.hacker@ju.se)).

The course syllabus for this course can be found [here](#) and the schedule for your programme is given above.

I – Tina Wallin – as programme director is responsible for the overall coordination of all programme courses, ensuring high programme quality and also functions as a speaking partner for you as a student, and the faculty. You are more than welcome to get in touch with me with questions regarding the programme at any time. Questions regarding the individual courses are better sent directly to the course examiners.



**Tina Wallin**

Acting Assistant Professor in Economics  
Programme Director JIBS  
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**We look forward to seeing you in August!**

**Tina and the teaching team of *Economic Analysis***