



UNIVERSITY
OF LJUBLJANA

SEB

School of Economics
and Business

HANDBOOK

Doctoral study programme

ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS

Academic year 2025/26



INFORMATION ABOUT THE DOCTORAL STUDY PROGRAMME IN ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS

Name of study programme	Economics and business
Type of study programme	Doctoral program
Level of study programme	Third level
KLASIUS-SRV	Doctoral study programme (third cycle) (18202)
ISCED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • social and behavioural science (31) • business and administration (34)
KLASIUS-P-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economics (0311) • Business and administration (not further defined) (0410)
Frascati	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social sciences (5)
Level SOK	Level SOK 10
Level EOK	Level EOK 8
Level EOVK	Third cycle
Tracks of program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economics • Business
Majors of program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Money and finance (Economics track) • Economics (Economics track) • International economics (Economics track) • Financial management (Business track) • Information management (Business track) • Management and organization (Business track) • International business (Business track) • Operations research (Business track) • Entrepreneurship (Business track) • Business logistics (Business track) • Accounting (Business track) • Marketing (Business track) • Tourism (Business track)
Member of the University of Ljubljana	School of Economics and Business, Kardeljeva ploščad 17, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
Duration of the study programme (years)	4
Credits per year	60
Mode of study	full-time/part-time

Study programme learning outcomes

The basic goal of the doctoral program is for doctoral students in economics, international economics, money and finance, management and organization, marketing, financial management, accounting, entrepreneurship, international business, tourism, information management, operations research, and business logistics: to obtain an extensive understanding of their broader and more focused area of research; to develop skills for independent and critical thinking; and to be capable of independently creating new knowledge. The final goal is therefore doctoral candidates with prominent research backgrounds, with outstanding internationally validated research, and with the ability to do quality independent research.

General competences

Students in the Doctoral Program in Economics and Business will be able to choose between basic or applied research. Those that choose basic research will be capable of carrying out the most demanding research through research institutions, appropriate state agencies and institutions (e.g., the European Commission, ministries, offices, central banks, etc.), various international institutions (e.g., the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, WHO, EBRD, etc.), and large international corporations. Students with an applied research orientation will primarily be able to conduct the most demanding research in business, state administration, and the non-profit sector, and they will also be very sought after by institutions with an applied research orientation. The basic purpose of the Doctoral Program in Economics and Business is to ensure that doctoral candidates have essential knowledge in research in both the broader and more focused area of economics and business, and to develop the skills that are necessary for this research at an international competitive level. The program inclines toward shaping doctoral candidates that will be capable of carrying out the most demanding research in their chosen area of economics or business, but at the same time will achieve broad recognition and will be capable of conducting interdisciplinary research as well as the most demanding professional work. To this end, the introductory part of the academic program is also built upon a broad familiarity with the philosophy of research in economics and business in general, with a review of the connections with the social sciences and natural sciences. Research methods are also carried out on this basis and thus put into a meaningful framework. The greatest emphasis in this first half of the doctoral program will be on developing the ability to think critically. It is only on this basis that the doctoral student can be introduced to the latest research and specific research methods in the general and more focused area of the doctoral dissertation and thus continue to acquire specific skills in the selected area.

The doctoral graduates have the following general skills:

- Greater familiarity with the broader field of economics or business and connections with other disciplines;
- Critical thinking and judgment;
- Ability to define relevant research problems;
- Use of the most up-to-date research methods, tools, and procedures;
- Ability to analyze, synthesize, and predict suitable explanations, with the ability to use an interdisciplinary approach;
- Ability to apply the latest theoretical knowledge (especially for those doing applied research);
- Ability to effectively communicate research findings;
- Autonomy and self-initiative in work and the ability for lifelong learning and adaptation to new conditions as they arise; and
- Ability to work in research teams and in an international environment.

Subject-specific competences

Subject-specific skills apply to:

- Deeper understanding of research approaches in the social sciences and economics;
- Deeper familiarity with the findings of the broader and more focused research area and ongoing monitoring of the latest findings and lines of development;
- Ability to recognize relevant problems, original research problem definitions, and original methods for solving them;
- Deeper familiarity with and ability to use the latest quantitative methods and appropriate selection of these methods for the defined research problems;
- Deeper familiarity with and ability to use the latest qualitative methods and appropriate selection of these methods for the defined research problems;
- Ability to suitably define and build databases;
- Independence in solving complex research problems;
- Familiarity with ethical principles and consistently observing them in research;
- Ability to prepare research reports and to communicate leading findings effectively.

Admission requirements

Anyone can enrol in the doctoral program that has completed:

- A second-cycle academic program;
- Study programme for university education (adopted prior to June 11, 2004);
- Study programme for specialisation and professional programme (if completed academic requirement set by the programme of 36 ECTS);

- Master's Degree Programme or study programme for specialisation and university education (upon entering the programme, students are awarded 60 ECTS credits pursuant to the regulations);
- Study programme regulated by EU directives, or any other uniform Master's Degree Programme with an equivalent of 300 ECTS.

The programme is open also for graduates from foreign universities, in accordance with the conditions prescribed for graduates from Slovene institutions. Equivalence of foreign entry qualifications is determined in the procedure of recognition for further education in accordance of the Statute of the University of Ljubljana.

Selection criteria for limited enrolment

In selecting candidates, the following shall be taken into account:

- Academic performance:
 - A Bologna master's (second-cycle) programme;
 - A bachelor's programme adopted before 11 June 2004;
 - A graduate certificate programme after a completed applied bachelor's programme;
 - A master's programme or a graduate certificate programme after completing a bachelor's programme;
 - A programme regulated by EU directives or any other fast-track master's programme equivalent to 300 credits.

and

- Oral exam performance:
 - The candidate's academic work to date (if this was not already taken into account under point 1),
 - Scholarly research potential,
 - The candidate's motivation,
 - The candidate's research to date (published articles and other publications),
 - Other criteria (e.g., GMAT or GRE scores, awards, recognitions, etc.).

The significance of listed criteria is defined by the Senate of the School.

Based on the number of advisors available, the Research and Doctoral Studies Committee defines the enrolment limits for individual majors.

Criteria for recognising knowledge and skills acquired prior to enrolment

A student can receive credit for knowledge acquired through various forms of education whose content matches that which is taught in subjects in the academic program. At the proposal of the head of the doctoral program, the Research and

Doctoral Studies Committee decides on recognition of knowledge and skills acquired before enrollment on the basis of a written request by the student, and the submission of certificates or other documents that attest to the acquisition of this knowledge.

Assessment methods

The grading scale for assessing knowledge is as follows: passed with distinction / passed / failed.

The criteria for grades are published in the course syllabuses. The criteria set out the method of assessment and the structure of the final grade in the course.

Once a year, the student presents his work on the doctoral dissertation at the department's research seminar. The members of the department critically evaluate the student's work and make comments and suggestions.

Requirements for progression through the program

The requirement to advance from the first to second year is the approved presentation of doctoral dissertation proposal draft, which is also the condition to attain credits designated for individual work on dissertation and successful completion of organized forms of study, planned for the first year.

The requirement to advance from second to third year is a statement from the School Senate confirming the committee's approval of the dissertation proposal's suitability and successful completion of organized forms of study, planned for the second year.

To advance into the fourth year, the doctoral candidate has to collect a total of 180 credits in organized forms of study – classroom instruction (i.e., pass all of the exams in theoretical foundations subjects, methodological foundations subjects and elective subjects, active participation in at least one scholarly conferences, research workshops, doctoral seminars, and research seminars and the demonstration of progress made on the dissertation) and independent research work on dissertation. Independent research work on the dissertation is demonstrated by the University of Ljubljana Senate's approval of the dissertation proposal.

By way of exception, the Research and Doctoral Studies Committee may allow advancement to students that have justifiable reasons for this and set a deadline for them to fulfil all of the requirements.

A student may once in the course of the studies repeat a year if he has satisfied the conditions for re-enrolment set by the study programme.

Requirements for transferring between programmes

Transfer from other doctoral programs to the Doctoral Program in Economics and Business is possible if the student fulfills the criteria for enrollment in this program. When transferring from other academic programs, the applicant must submit certification of having completed the academic requirements in the program at the

institution of higher education where he was enrolled and an official copy from the confirmed and valid syllabus for the subjects and other content for which he fulfilled the academic requirements. The committee responsible for doctoral studies at the School of Economics and Business University of Ljubljana, decides on the transfer request on the proposal of the coordinator of the Doctoral Programme in Economics and Business. Transfer is effected on the basis of recognition of the exams that the applicant took in the previous academic program. This takes into account the alignment of the educational content (subjects and other components of the academic program) of the applicant's previous program with the educational content of the Doctoral Program in Economics and Business as well as the comparability of the breadth of the subjects in ECTS credits.

Requirements for completing the study programme

To complete the programme and earn a doctoral degree, students must complete all of the programme's academic requirements and successfully defend the dissertation. Before submitting their dissertation for evaluation, students must publish an article (or submit a statement confirming that their article has been accepted for publication) on the dissertation topic in the journal that the School recognizes as suitable for awarding a member of the teaching staff the title of assistant professor, associate professor, or full professor.

Requirements for completing individual parts of the programme if the programme contains them

The study programme contains no parts that can be completed individually.

Professional or academic title (male)

- doktor znanosti / Doctor of Philosophy

Professional or academic title (female)

- doktorica znanosti / Doctor of Philosophy

Professional or academic title (abbreviated)

- dr. / Ph.D.

STUDY PROGRAMME CURRICULUM

Year 1

				Contact hours									
	University Course Code	Course title	Lecturers	Lectures	Seminar	Tutorials	Clinical tutorials	Other forms of study	Individual student work	Total hours	ECTS	Semesters	Elective
1.	0173140	Theoretical foundation		35				55	150	240	8		yes
2.	0098895	Methodological foundation		110		20		110	300	540	18		yes
3.	0173168	Presentation of the draft dissertation proposal						90	90	180	6		no
4.	0173143	Work on dissertation							840	840	28		no
		Total		145	0	20	0	255	1380	1800	60		

First-year students earn 32 credits in organised forms of study. This means that one course in theoretical foundations courses (8 credits), at least 3 courses in methodological foundations courses (18 credits), and the presentation of the draft dissertation proposal (6 credits) must be completed. In the 1st year, students earn 28 credits through individual research work on a doctoral dissertation. (Independent research work on the dissertation is demonstrated by the presentation of the draft dissertation proposal.)

Year 2

				Contact hours									
	University Course Code	Course title	Lecturers	Lectures	Seminar	Tutorials	Clinical tutorials	Other forms of study	Individual student work	Total hours	ECTS	Semesters	Elective
1.	0173144	Theoretical foundation		35				55	150	240	8		yes
2.	0173170	Elective courses		20				15	85	120	4		yes
3.	0173171	Presentation of the progress made on the dissertation						45	45	90	3		no
4.	0173146	Work on dissertation							1350	1350	45		no
		Total		55	0	0	0	115	1630	1800	60		

Second-year students earn 15 credits in organised forms of study. This means that one course in theoretical foundations courses (8 credits), an elective course (4 credits), and the presentation of the progress made on the dissertation (3 credits) must be completed. In the 2nd year, students earn 45 credits through individual research work on a doctoral dissertation. (Independent research work on the dissertation is demonstrated by a statement from the School Senate confirming the Doctoral Student Committee's approval of the dissertation proposal.)

Year 3

				Contact hours									
University Course Code	Course title	Lecturers	Lectures	Seminar	Tutorials	Clinical tutorials	Other forms of study	Individual student work	Total hours	ECTS	Semesters	Elective	
1.	0173170	Elective courses	20				15	85	120	4		yes	
2.	0173148	Active participation at academic conferences, workshops, doctoral and research seminars					45	45	90	3		yes	
3.	0173171	Presentation of the progress made on the dissertation					45	45	90	3		no	
4.	0173149	Work on dissertation						1500	1500	50		no	
Total			20	0	0	0	105	1675	1800	60			

Third-year students earn 10 credits in organised forms of study. This means completing one elective course (4 credits), earning 3 credits from active participation at academic conferences, and presenting the progress made on the dissertation (3 credits). In the 3rd year, students earn 50 credits through individual research work on a doctoral dissertation. (Independent research work on the dissertation is demonstrated by the approval of the dissertation proposal by the Senate of the University of Ljubljana.)

Year 4

				Contact hours									
University Course Code	Course title	Lecturers	Lectures	Seminar	Tutorials	Clinical tutorials	Other forms of study	Individual student work	Total hours	ECTS	Semesters	Elective	
1.	0173148	Active participation at academic conferences, workshops, doctoral and research seminars					45	45	90	3		yes	
2.	0173151	Work on dissertation						1710	1710	57		no	
Total			0	0	0	0	45	1755	1800	60			

Fourth-year students earn 3 credits in organised forms of study from active participation at academic conferences and 50 credits through individual research work on a doctoral dissertation. (Independent research work on the dissertation includes presentation of the results of research work prior to the defence of the doctoral dissertation.)

METHODOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS

				Contact hours									
University Course Code	Course title	Lecturers	Lectures	Seminar	Tutorials	Clinical tutorials	Other forms of study	Individual student work	Total hours	ECTS	Semesters	Elective	
1.	0099012	Probability and Statistics	MIHAEL PERMAN	35			55	90	180	6	1st semester	yes	
2.	0099013	Theory and application of	IRENA OGRAJENŠEK	24				96	120	4	2nd semester	yes	

		qualitative research											
3.	0099014	Mathematics for Economics and Business	MATJAŽ KONVALINKA	35		25		25	95	180	6	1st semester	yes
4.	0099015	Panel data econometrics	SAŠO POLANEC	25				35	60	120	4	2nd semester	yes
5.	0099016	Applied Time Series Analysis	IGOR MASTEN	25				35	60	120	4	2nd semester	yes
6.	0099019	Theory and application of quantitative research	MARKO PAHOR	25				35	60	120	4	2nd semester	yes
7.	0173158	Regression models in economics and business	MIROSLAV VERBIČ	40				35	105	180	6	2nd semester	yes
8.	0099023	Advanced Econometrics	MARTIN WAGNER	40		25		40	135	240	8	2nd semester	yes
Total				249	0	50	0	260	701	1260	42		

School also offers elective methodological foundations courses with 3 to 8 credits per course. The courses, their lecturers, and the value of credits are approved at the beginning of each academic year by the Research and Doctoral Studies Committee of the School of Economics and Business of the University of Ljubljana. The prerequisite for participation at the elective methodological courses is the completion of at least one of the courses Theory and practice of qualitative research or Theory and practice of quantitative research. The number of credits is determined by the individual syllabus, and the condition for obtaining credits is, as a rule, participation in at least 75 percent of the organised contact hours

and an additional form of assessment of acquired knowledge in the form of an exam, a written seminar assignment, a presentation, or a combination of the above.

THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS

				Contact hours									
	University Course Code	Course title	Lecturers	Lectures	Seminar	Tutorials	Clinical tutorials	Other forms of study	Individual student work	Total hours	ECTS	Semesters	Elective
1.	0173160	Microeconomics	MATJAŽ KOMAN	25		25		40	150	240	8	1st semester	yes
2.	0173161	Macroeconomics	IGOR MASTEN, SAŠO POLANEC	50				40	150	240	8	2nd semester	yes
3.	0173174	Theory development in business research	ALEŠ POPOVIČ	25				80	135	240	8	1st semester	yes
		Total		100	0	25	0	160	435	720	24		

Each year, the School offers some elective theoretical foundations courses with 3 to 8 credits per course. Students may choose elective courses organised by other institutions within the network of doctoral programmes, in consultation with the supervisor and the Doctoral Programme Coordinator. The number of credits is determined by the individual syllabus, and the condition for obtaining credits is, as a rule, participation in at least 75 percent of the organised contact hours and an additional form of assessment of acquired knowledge in the form of an exam, a written seminar assignment, a presentation, or a combination of the above.

ELECTIVE COURSES

				Contact hours									
	University Course Code	Course title	Lecturers	Lectures	Seminar	Tutorials	Clinical tutorials	Other forms of study	Individual student work	Total hours	ECTS	Semesters	Elective
1.	0173175	Philosophy of economic and business research	ALEKSANDAR KEŠELJEVIĆ	25				30	65	120	4	1st semester	yes
2.	0173176	Questionnaire design and testing	IRENA OGRAJENŠEK	16					104	120	4	2nd semester	yes
		Total		41	0	0	0	30	169	240	8		

Each year, the School decides which elective courses will be offered. The courses, their lecturers, and the value of credits are approved at the beginning of each academic year by the Research and Doctoral Studies Committee of the School of Economics and Business of the University of Ljubljana on the proposal of the Doctoral Programme Coordinator. The number of credits is determined by the individual syllabus, and the condition for obtaining credits is, as a rule, participation in at least 75 percent of the organised contact hours and an additional form of assessment of acquired knowledge in the form of an exam, a written seminar assignment, a presentation, or a combination of the above.