



Module title, ECTS credits Bachelor Thesis 20 ECTS
Location EBA 6th. Semester, spring
Module coordinator Romeo V. Turcan, rvt@business.aau.dk
Type and language Project Module Language of instruction: English
Academic content and conjunction with other modules/semesters The student is expected to have competences from the 5 previous semesters at EBA. The teaching and the supervision in the bachelor thesis module therefore takes for granted, that the student can work independently within AAU PBL model, have freedom to choose research questions/problem, theory and models, research methods, and methodology.
Learning Objectives Through problem based learning (PBL) project work the students are writing a bachelor thesis based on a research question of their own choice within business economics. Knowledge: The Bachelor of Science (BSc) Thesis must demonstrate that the student possesses research-based knowledge of theory, method and practice within the fields of economics and business administration and social sciences that form a base for the student's reflections concerning research question, theoretical, methodological, analysis and interpretation choices throughout the thesis. This includes knowledge to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explain the connection between (i) research questions, problems, knowledge gaps, (ii) theories and models; (iii) research method, incl., data collection and data analysis; and (iv) impact of the results/findings, incl., interdisciplinary, policy, and practice aspects• Identify and explain the choice of research questions, problems, knowledge gaps using applicable theories and models from EBA's curriculum• Define and explain the choice of applicable theories and models, scientific terms, synthesize and conceptualize existing knowledge• Explain research design choice (incl., data collection and data analysis) in the thesis and its connection to the research questions, problems, and knowledge gaps, and theories and models.• Understand and explain the connection between (i) research questions, problems, knowledge gaps, (ii) theories and models; (iii) research method; and (iv)

impact/interpretation of the results/findings and the paradigm within theory of science that the thesis is based on, incl., the ability to discuss different paradigms, their terms, perspectives and ontological and epistemological basis applied to the *thesis*.

Skills:

The BSc thesis must show that the student has skills in PBL project work, can use interdisciplinary scientific methods and tools, incl., relevant scientific literature. This includes skills to:

- Create new knowledge through the review and synthesis of existing literature (knowledge)
- Develop research designs that are linked to the research questions, problems, and knowledge gaps, and theories and models
- Assess the relevance of different theoretical perspectives and models in the analysis of the identified/chosen research questions, problems, and knowledge gaps
- Collect secondary and primary data through appropriate data collection instruments and critically reflect on the implications of the choice of data collection method
- Analyse collected data employing the chosen data analysis method(s) and take a critical stand to validity and reliability
- Use software (such as SPSS and NVivo) to analyse collected data (only if relevant for the thesis)
- Understand, interpret and critically reflect upon the findings/results of the thesis and develop solutions/recommendations based on these findings/results creating new knowledge, new connections between theory and practice
- Evaluate and assess the developed solutions/recommendations within the limitations of the thesis
- Handle project management and include cross disciplinary aspects
- Communicate scientific problems in writing and verbally in theoretical and practical contexts

Competences:

Through the BSc thesis, the student must demonstrate that s/he can manage and develop complex, inter-disciplinary tasks. This includes competence to:

- Specialise in an area of own choice within business economics
- Critically reflect on research questions, problems, and knowledge gaps identified as part of the thesis within business economics either individually or as part of a group
- Critically reflect on research design, data collection and analysis methods
- Critically assess the choice and application of theory of science and methodological approaches to the identification of (i) research questions, problems, knowledge gaps, (ii) theories and models; (iii) research method; and (iv) impact/interpretation

- Identify own learning needs, objectives and approaches in different interdisciplinary, learning environments, act professionally and taking responsibility for own academic development and specialization
- Critically reflect upon, analyse and synthesise existing and new knowledge, identifying assumptions, evaluating statements on the basis of scientific evidence, detect false logic or reasoning and identify implicit values in a broad context within business economics

Scope and expected performance

20 ECTS is equivalent to 540 hours of work.

Lectures that can support the writing of bachelor thesis will be held during February.

(Required reading, time and place will be posted in Moodle)

Thesis size:

Thesis written by 1 student: max 40 pages

Thesis written by 2 students: max 55 pages

Thesis written by 3 students: max 70 pages

Thesis written by 4 students: max 85 pages

Thesis written by 5-6 students: max 100 pages

Note: The total number of pages indicated above excludes table of contents, appendices and resumé. A page is defined as 2400 characters with spaces.

Examination

Oral group examination based on a project (duration depending on group size). An external co-examiner/censor will attend the oral exam. Individual assessment according to the Danish 7-point grading scale.

The grade 12 will be awarded to students who give an excellent performance and demonstrate that they have fulfilled the above objectives exhaustively or with few insignificant omissions. The grade 02 will be awarded to students who demonstrate that they have fulfilled the minimum acceptable level of the above learning objectives.

Only students who have turned in the thesis on time can take part in the exam. Precise time for turning in the project and the schedule for the exam (end of June) will be posted by study secretary Helle Kragbæk Nordentoft in Moodle.

Note: Top-up students or students with individual arrangements might have deadline in August. Ask your semester secretary, Helle Kragbæk Nordentoft, regarding your options in case you can't meet the deadline.