



General information

Getting a supervisor and defining your topic

Kjell Arne Brekke



Scedule today

16:15	General information
16:30:00	Alessia Russo
16:37:30	Bård Harstad
16:45:00	ESOP
16:52:30	OFS
17:00:00	CREE
17:07:30	NIBR
17:15:00	SSB
17:22:30	NUPI
17:30:00	Frisch
17:37:30	You can talk to the presenters



Timeline

- February 7th, 2013, this meeting
- March 1st, 2013: Deadline for suggestions
- Hopefully by April, 2013: Supervisor appointed
- 15. October, 2013: A plan for the master thesis
- May 2014: Deadline for final thesis.



Suggestions

- Suggestions are not mandatory
 - But you have an opportunity to influence
- What can you suggest
 - Problem you want to write about
 - Subject area
 - Wide like: Macroeconomics, Econometrics, Micro
 - Narrow : Climate change, Pension system
 - Supervisor
 - You may make a deal with the supervisor
 - Or just suggest one and hope that works out



Research at the department

- Demography
- Econometrics
- Behavioral Economics
- Information and Strategies
- Economics
- Economic Policy
- Growth and Development
- Income Work and Welfare
- Industry Markets and Competition
- International Economics
- Money Credit and Finance
- Resources Energy and Environment



More details available

Demography as example

- Why do Norwegian women give birth to fewer children today than what they did a few decades ago?
- Why is the number of children even lower in most other developed countries?
- Do married people live longer than unmarried?
- Is education and income a strong determinant of people's life expectancy?
- Does the high rate in population growth in developing countries hamper economic growth, and what are the consequences of this for the environment?
- What measures should be taken in order to limit population growth in these parts of the world?



I can not promise to satisfy all wishes

- Too many may want the same supervisor
 - Go see your first choice and make a deal
- Too many may want the same topic
 - Again: make a deal early
 - Or suggest alternatives



Assigning supervisor

- The master committee will assign a supervisor.
- If you want an influence, your time window is prior to March 1st.
- Before March 1st, send a mail to masterkomiten@econ.uio.no



Go see your supervisor!

- Do not wait for the supervisor to contact you!
- You still have responsibilities for finding the exact topic for your thesis.
- Don't think too large – Why are some countries poor and some rich
 - Earn your Nobel price later
- You find appropriate topics in the details



Your topic

- Read newspaper
 - Aftenposten today:
 - A special issue on future economic development
 - Future growth rate is important e.g. in integrated climate assessment models. What are the basis for the assumed growth?
 - Randers presents an forecast of lower growth since services are a larger share of GDP, with less potential for TFP-growth.
 - Don't think too large:
 - Crisis in the Euro-zone in newspaper every day, but don't expect to solve the crisis in your master thesis..
- See existing thesis at: duo.uio.no



The time until October 15th

- If possible, meet with the supervisor before summer
- In collaboration with the supervisor you should work out a plan for the thesis
 - Details on the plan next page
- The plan has to be approved
 - If revisions are needed a new deadline will be given
 - Deadline not yet set, but likely late November.



The Project plan

- A detailed plan for the entire thesis
- The chapters of the thesis
- You should have verified that data are available, and in what form.
- The plan must specify methods
- What do we currently know, and what is your contribution.
- More information available online



After the project plan is approved

- The main work on the master thesis is expected to be the spring 2014.
- The project plan should give you a clear direction for how to approach the problems
 - Research is unpredictable, so plans changes



More information on the web

- Go to <http://www.sv.uio.no/econ/english/>
- Choose tab «Studies»
- Click «Manage your studies» (in the middle)
- Click «For master students»

- Direct link
- <http://www.sv.uio.no/econ/english/studies/admin/masters-thesis/index.html>
- Subject pages: ECON 4090 Master's thesis