

**Curriculum for Master of Science in Economics and Business Administration, Strategic
Entrepreneurship**

**Curriculum for
Graduate in Strategic Entrepreneurship
MA of Science in Economics and Business
Administration
Strategic Entrepreneurship**

Curriculum for Master of Science in Economics and Business Administration, Strategic Entrepreneurship

This curriculum has been prepared under the provisions of

Order No. 338 of May 6th 2004 by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Development on Bachelor and Master Studies at Universities (the Education Order) including amendments

and

Order No. 867 of August 19th 2004 by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Development on Examinations at University Studies (the Examination Order) including amendments.

The Study Board may, when justified by exceptional circumstances, grant exemptions from those curriculum rules determined solely by the University.

The curriculum applies to students commencing the Master Study in Strategic Entrepreneurship as from September 1st 2007.

The curriculum was approved on August 15th 2007 by

The Study Board of Business Administration, Kolding

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1. Overall study objective

The master study is a research based full-time study qualifying the student to independently perform business functions based on knowledge and methodical skills within one or more fields. A field consists of a subject or a group of related subjects within the field of social sciences.

The objective of the master study is to:

- extend the student's specialist knowledge and skill and increase the student's theoretical and methodical qualifications and independence compared to the bachelor level.
- provide the student with specialist absorption through application of advanced elements in the specialist disciplines and methods, including training in scientific work and methods that will further develop the student's competence to perform extensively specialised business functions and participate in scientific innovation, and
- qualify the student for further education, including PhD Fellowship, compare to order on PhD Fellowship and PhD Degree (the PhD Order).

Cf. Sections 1 and 3 of the Education Order

The Study Board's additional provisions:

1.1 Competence description for the Master Study in Economics

This Nordic Joint Study Master program is jointly offered by the University of Southern Denmark in Kolding, Denmark, Umeå School of Business in Umeå (USBE), Sweden and Hanken in Vaasa, Finland.

Each institution admits a group of students that study together for one term at each of the partner universities before returning to their 'home' universities for the final semester. Thus half the study credits are obtained at the University of Southern Denmark and one fourth at each of the two partner universities.

Strategic Entrepreneurship provides students with comprehensive theoretical and hands-on knowledge of entrepreneurship in various Nordic business and cultural contexts. The program aims to educate independent entrepreneurial students that can work in and develop different types of

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entrepreneurial activities in international contexts, by combining entrepreneurship, international business development and international networks.

1.2 Business related competencies after graduation

The Master Study in Strategic Entrepreneurship enables the student to;

- Manage, renew and strategically develop entrepreneurial activities in SME's, large corporations and the public sector in a complex and changing business environment
- Understand the ways in which problems and opportunities that managers and firms face can be dealt with through business strategies for entrepreneurial development, specifically in a Nordic business setting, but applicable to settings around Northern Europe and beyond.

The students are prepared for future careers as team-leaders, project managers, managers, advisors, and change agents in private, public and non-profit organizations.

The students can focus on creativity and re-thinking in different types of entrepreneurial settings including various managerial and change agent positions in a variety of companies.

With its combined theoretical and practical approach, this profile provides students with in-depth knowledge of contemporary research and business practices, as well as frameworks, skills and tools rising from hands-on experience, required for entrepreneurial activities for change and local, national and international progress.

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2. Organisation etc.

The Master Study consists of a number of modules. A module is a specialist element or a group of specialist elements with the objective to provide the student with specialist qualifications within a fixed timeframe stated in ECTS credits (European Credit Transfer System) and completed by one or more exams within certain exam terms stated and delimited in the curriculum.

60 ECTS credits corresponds to one year's full time studies.

Cf. Section 6 of the Education Order

The Study Board's additional resolutions:

2.1 Study structure

2.1.1 Course composition

The study is composed of core courses, elective courses and a master thesis.

- 90 ECTS from the offered courses
 - All core courses within Strategic Entrepreneurship must be passed. Elective courses are chosen from the study's pre-approved elective courses. If other courses are desirable, it is a prerequisite that the Head of Study has approved these alternative courses in writing.
- 30 ECTS master thesis

Core courses	Weighting	Censorship/Assessment	ECTS credits
Innovation in Changing Business Environment	0,75		7,5 ECTS
Dynamic Business Setting	0,75		7,5 ECTS
Entrepreneurial Activity (Know-how I)	0,75		7,5 ECTS
Method and Design	0,75		7,5 ECTS
Strategic Management of knowledge in Business Networks	0,8		8,0 ECTS
Management of Critical Business Decisions	0,8		8,0 ECTS
Entrepreneurial Activity (Know-how II)	0,6		6,0 ECTS
Professional and Academic Writing	0,8		8,0 ECTS
International Business Development and Growth	1	External, Danish 7-point grade scale.	10 ECTS
Information systems in growing networks (Or another elective course)	1	Internal, Danish 7-point grade scale.	10 ECTS
Entrepreneurial Activity, (Know-how III)	0,5	Internal, Danish 7-point grade scale.	5 ECTS
Quantitative and Qualitative Field Studies,	0,5	Internal, Danish 7-point	5 ECTS

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		grade scale.	
Master's Thesis in Strategic Entrepreneurship	3,0	External, Danish 7-point grade scale.	30 ECTS

2.1.2 Course descriptions and examination forms

Course descriptions and examination forms are updated twice a year. The course descriptions are part of the curriculum that describes the individual course. The course descriptions contain information on:

- The course's Danish and English title
- Campus town in which the course is available
- Course level (Bachelor or Master)
- Responsible Study Board
- Study Board approval date
- Latest course update
- Responsible instructor for the course
- Responsible department
- ECTS credits / weighting
- Special prerequisites (recommended, not required)
- Competence description
- Course content
- Bibliography
- Instruction time (autumn or spring)
- Instruction form and language
- Examination time
- Examination conditions (must be met to participate in the exam)
- Examination form; internal or external censorship, the Danish seven point grade scale or passed/failed

The maximum number of examinations after completion of a course is three, unless the course is offered again. The examination form and syllabus applied will always be the ones that are current.

Students are only allowed to take courses included in the study in which they are enrolled, unless they have obtained approval from the Study Board to take courses that are not available in their own study.

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2.2 Study time limit

The University may lay down rules in the curriculum on how long after enrolment in the study the student must have completed the course.

Cf. Section 5 of the Education Order

The Study Board's additional resolutions:

Either specification of a deadline or that there is no deadline, with reference to item 2.2.1 instead.

2.2.1 Rules on study activity

There is no time limit for finishing the Master Study, instead the following rule on study activity applies:

A student's registration will be cancelled if the student has not been active for the past two years, unless the student and the Study Board/Head of Study agree otherwise in a written agreement. Periods of leave are not included when measuring activity periods.

Lack of study activity means that the student has not participated in an examination or passed any courses through course concession within the past two years.

Prior to the two year deadline, the student must be offered guidance and support measures, with the intent for the student to resume the study.

Prior to the enrolment cancellation the student in question must be informed hereof, as well as of the cancellation date. If the student fails to respond to this approach or fails to attend the guidance offered, the enrolment will be cancelled.

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3. Admission requirements etc.

Access to the Master Study requires a relevant bachelor degree or another relevant Danish or foreign degree at the same level.

The University decides, within the framework of the Education Order, which bachelor degrees that qualify for admission to the Master Study and which special access requirements in terms of courses and the extent of ECTS credits which the student must have obtained during the individual Bachelor Study in order to be eligible for admission to the Master Study.

The University may admit applicants, who do not meet the requirements, but which, based on a specific assessment, are considered to have educational qualifications equivalent to the above mentioned.

The university may require that the applicant passes additional exams.

Cf. Section 9 of the Education Order

The Study Board's additional resolutions:

3.1 Bachelor studies

A complete undergraduate degree in Business Administration (approx. 3 years of study at university level, which is roughly equivalent to a Danish Bachelor degree). The main field of the undergraduate degree must include courses within the following areas; 1) Economics, 2) Business Economics and 3) Tool courses (e.g. Introductory Programming and Data Processing, Mathematics, Statistics and Business Law) where Marketing, Organisation, Financing, Macroeconomics, Managerial Accounting, Sociology, Business Law and Statistics are most important.

For Non-EU/EEA citizens from countries where English is not the native language adequate proficiency in spoken and written English is required, since English is the instruction language. One of the following proficiency tests is required: TOEFL with a score of min. 575 paper based, min. 230 computer based, min. 88 internet based or IELTS with a score of min. 6.5. PLEASE NOTE: The University of Southern Denmark only accepts original test scores sent directly from the test centre or the educational testing service (ETS) before the registration deadline.

EU/EEA citizens and Exchange students are not required to document their English skills but are expected to meet the required English language level.

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4. The Master Study

4.1 Prescribed credits

The prescribed credits for the Master Study are 120 ECTS.

Cf. Section 19 of the Education Order

4.2 Title

The Master Degree entitles the graduate to use the title Master of Science in (MSc) in Economics and Business Administration, Strategic Entrepreneurship.

Cf. Section 20 of the Education Order

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4.3 Study composition

The Master Study must be a rounded study which expands the knowledge and insight obtained by the student during the Bachelor Study.

The University organizes the study in a way that ensures professional continuity and progression. The course's modularity must ensure that the student is normally able to choose from competence profiles directed towards various business functions.

The Master Study covers:

- 1) Constituent course elements for the study's special professional competence and identity corresponding to at least 90 ECTS credits. This must include a master thesis of 30 ECTS credits.
- 2) Optional courses of at least 10 ECTS credits.

The master thesis must document skills in using scientific theories and methods during work with a delimited specialist subject. The University approves the subject delimitation and at the same time determines a deadline for submitting the thesis.

The master thesis completes the course. The University may in special cases make exemptions from the rule that the master thesis completes the Master Study.

Cf. Section 21 of the Education Order

The Study Board's additional resolutions:

4.3.1 Profile

We refer til Item 2.1.1.

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4.4 Study groups

A study group, which is formed beyond the normal course offering, consists of a small number of students, who in cooperation with an instructor organizes an instruction/study course, which in extent and level is equivalent to a course in the graduate study. A group of students or the department may initiate the formation of a study group. The students make an agreement with the instructor regarding topic and syllabus, and send an application to the study board containing the instructor's signature and the names of the students to ask for permission to form the study group. The study board may process applications for study groups at any time of the year. Study groups may be completed and finalized independently of the term division. The only examination form available for study groups is term papers. The study board, the Head of Study and the Course Director in cooperation determine the demands for the individual course. The extent is approximately as a seminar. There is no examination registration.

A study group that is formed as replacement for an offered course due to low course intake, is in all ways, except the instruction form, effectuated in accordance to the original course description.

4.5 Seminar

4.5.1 Topic

As a part of the master program, the student can write a seminar report. The topic of the seminar must be chosen within the topic areas approved for the program. The topic must be approved by an instructor, who will also be responsible for supervision and evaluation of the seminar report.

Previously assessed papers (written reports, master thesis) may not form part of the seminar. If the seminar is handed in at the same time as or after the master thesis, the problem from the seminar must not be written within the same topic as the thesis.

For re-examination a new assignment must be written. This assignment may be prepared within the same topic as the previous assignment.

Special rules for compulsory seminar reports and seminar reports offered as elective courses might be stipulated in course descriptions and separate instructions within each specialized topic.

4.5.2 Extent and group work

Students may choose to write the seminar report individually or in groups of maximum 4 students. When choosing to write in groups, it must be specified in the preface, who is responsible for what parts of the seminar.

For detailed information please refer to the course description for seminars.

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4.5.3 Submission and assessment

The seminar must be handed in to Studie Service, Kolding in three copies.

For description of the seminar assessment we refer to the course description.

4.6 Master thesis

The master thesis must document skills in using scientific theories and methods during work with a delimited specialist subject. The master thesis completes the study. The University may in special cases make exemptions from the rule that the master thesis completes the study.

The University approves the subject delimitation and at the same time determines a deadline for submitting the thesis.

The master thesis cannot be course conceded.

Cf. Sections 22, 72 and 74 of the Education Order

The Study Board's additional resolutions:

4.6.1 Topic

As an integrated part of the MSc in Economics and Business Administration program, the master thesis must be prepared on a topic within the study area. The chosen topic must be approved by the supervisor.

Written reports, term papers and seminars that have previously been handed in for assessment may not form part of the master thesis. In re-examination a new topic must be chosen.

4.6.2 Extent and group work

Students may choose to write the master thesis individually or with a fellow student. However, the Study Board of Business Administration, Kolding may waive this rule. When choosing to write in groups it must be specified in the preface, who is responsible for what parts of the master thesis.

The master thesis must be written in English and be accompanied by a summary. For detailed information please refer to the course description for master thesis.

4.6.3 Registration

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Having chosen a topic for the master thesis, a supervisor agreement must be filled out and handed in to Studie Service, Kolding. The agreement must include information on the master thesis' topic and a deadline for handing in the project description. The agreement must be signed by the student and the supervisor(s).

4.6.4 Thesis processing

The student(s) must hand in the master thesis in three copies at Studie Service, Kolding (four copies, if the thesis may be issued by the University Library). During evaluation of the thesis the student presents the master thesis. Based on this, the supervisor and the examiner will examine the student within the topic of the master thesis.

Duration of the thesis evaluation (oral defense) is approximately one to three hours. If the master thesis is prepared by a group the duration of the thesis evaluation will be longer, since the students will be examined individually. The oral defense is opened by the students giving a speech of 10 to 20 minutes, focusing on problems during the preparation of the master thesis, etc. A summary of the assignment is not advisable. The purpose of the subsequent discussion is to;

- Clarify disputed points concerning details of the master thesis.
- Undertake a thorough test of the student's knowledge within the topic of the master thesis.

Time and place for the thesis evaluation will be announced on the notice board no later than seven days before the evaluation takes place.

By the master thesis evaluation the linguistic presentation might, under certain extreme circumstances, have an effect on the evaluation. In case of relevant and documented functional disabilities exemptions to this rule can be made.

The evaluation of a thesis is open to the public, unless special arrangements have been made, and will be held at the University of Southern Denmark, Kolding.

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4.7 Requirements for passing etc.

A student has passed an exam, when the mark 02 or the assesment passed is achieved. A passed exam may not be taken again.

If an exam consists of several sub-exams, the mark for the entire exam must be at least 02. If the total exam is passed, sub-exams completed with the marks 00 or -3 may not be taken again. Even if the entire exam is failed, sub-exams in which the marks 02 or higher have been obtained may not be taken again.

It may be determined that two or more examinations must be passed within the same examination term.

It may be determined that two or more exams must be passed by a total grade point average. In that case the average must be at least 2.0 without cambering.

It must be determined what marks are included in the total examination result.

It may be determined that the total examination result is expressed by an average mark. One decimal must be included when calculating the average mark. An exam is passed when the average mark is at least 2.0 without cambering and when all examinations assessed by passed/failed are passed.

If an average mark is not calculated, all tests included in the examination must be passed.

Cf. Sections 14-17 of the Marking Order

The Study Board's additional resolutions:

The student has graduated the master study when the average mark 2 or higher or the assesment passed is obtained for each individual subject.

4.7.1 Weighting and average mark calculation

When calculating the average, the weight of the courses depend on the courses' ECTS credit values and is calculated as follows:

10 ECTS: included in the examination average with the weight of *1.0*

5 ECTS: included in the examination average with the weight of *0.5*

Seminar: included in the examination average with the weight of *1.0*

The thesis: included in the examination average with the *weight of 3.0*

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5. Examination etc.

The following applies to examinations and when issuing certificates:

- 1) The Order on Examinations at University Studies (the Examination Order).
- 2) Order on the External Examiner Institution for certain Higher Education Studies under the Ministry of Education (the External Examiner Order).
- 3) Order on Marking Scale and other Assessment (the Marking Order).

Cf. Section 66 of the Education Order

The Study Board's additional resolutions:

5.1 Syllabus descriptions

Each term the examination syllabus is published on the Internet. The examination syllabus is part of the curriculum. Examination will always be according to the most recent syllabus.

5.2 Ordinary examination

As a main rule, ordinary examinations are held in January and June, however, for first year courses examinations are only held in January and August for first term courses and in June for second term courses. Other examination times may be fixed for individual optional courses or blocks of optional courses. This will be stated in the respective course descriptions.

5.3 Re-examination

Re-examination (new examination in the same term) is only held if this is stated in the course description next to "examination time". Re-examination is only held in August for the first year courses placed in the second term. Participation in a re-examination requires that the student has been registered to participate in the ordinary examination held in the same examination term.

5.4 Make-up examination

Make-up examinations that are typically held in connection with the next ordinary examination or re-examination, are granted by the Study Board based on an application accompanied by documentation for the illness, and the ordinary examination attempt is cancelled.

5.5 Examination conditions

Examination conditions met prior to the first ordinary examination must not be repeated in connection with a new examination.

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5.6 Aids

If students are allowed aids at an examination, this means "books, notes, papers, pocket calculators etc.". Aids capable of communicating inside and outside the room and may have a disruptive effect: computers, printers, telephones etc. may never be brought into the room unless this is expressly stated in the course description.

5.7 Spelling and formulation ability

When assessing master thesis' and other extensive written assignments there must in addition to the professional content also be assigned importance to the student's spelling and formulation abilities, no matter what language the assignment is written in.

Cf. Section 11 of the Examination Order

The Study Board's additional resolutions:

The assessment of written papers primarily concerns the specialist contents. The student's spelling and formulation abilities should be assigned limited weighting unless there are considerable and pronounced deviations from usual usage of the specialist language. This especially applies in major written assignments. Relevant documented disabilities may result in exemptions from this resolution.

5.8 Examination language

Examinations are in Danish, unless part of the examination objective is to document the student's skills in a foreign language. If a course has been taught in a foreign language, the examination must be completed in the respective language. The University may deviate from this rule.

Cf. Section 5 of the Examination Order

5.9 Internal or external examinations

At least 1/3 of the study's total ECTS credits must be documented by external examinations. The external examinations must cover the most important areas of the study, including the master thesis.

Cf. Section 6 of the Examination Order

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5.10 Mark or the assessment passed /failed

The assessments passed/failed or approved/failed may only be used for examinations covering 1/3 of the study's ECTS credits. However, this does not apply to examinations transferred by course concession.

Cf. Section 10 of the Examination Order

5.11 Number of examination attempts

The student may have no more than three attempts at passing an examination. The University may allow a fourth or fifth attempt in case of unusual circumstances. The question of suitability to study may not be taken into account when assessing whether unusual circumstances exist. The student may in connection with the third, fourth or fifth attempt at an internal exam demand the presence of an external examiner.

The University may in exceptional cases make exemptions for more than five attempts, especially if the student only needs to pass a single examination to complete the course.

Cf. Section 26 of the Examination Order

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5.12 Examination registration and cancellation

The University may set a deadline for each individual examination, within which students have to register or cancel their registration for the exam.

If a student fails to cancel the registration in time, the examination will be regarded as taken in terms of number of attempts. However, this does not apply if the student is prevented from participating due to illness.

The University may make exemptions from the set deadlines in case of unusual circumstances.

Cf. Section 27 of the Examination Order

The Study Board's additional resolutions:

Examination registration is done automatically, when the student is enrolled in the course from the start of the course.

Furthermore, examination registration can be made during the period October 20th – October 30th and March 20th - March 30th, unless otherwise stated in the course description.

Students may cancel their examination registration for a course from March/October 20th and until to 7 days before the first examination date in the respective course.

5.13 Recording of oral exams

Students may record their own oral examinations.

Cf. Section 28 of the Examination Order

5.14 Examination complaints

Students must file any complaints concerning examinations or other assessments included in an examination with the University. The complaint must be reasoned and in writing.

The complaint must be filed within two weeks after the assessment publication. However, this deadline applies from the stated publication date. The University may make an exemption from the deadline in case of unusual circumstances.

A complaint may not result in a lower assessment than the one originally given.

Cf. Sections 37, 38 and 43 of the Examination Order

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6. Other resolutions

6.1 Course concession rules

Study elements passed according to this Order must be equivalent to similar study elements at other universities offering the same degree in accordance with this Order.

The University may accept that study elements passed according to this Order may replace study elements with another Master Study at the same level according to this Order (course concession).

The University may also accept that passed study elements from another Danish or foreign Master Studies at the same level may replace study elements according to this Order.

The master thesis cannot be course conceded.

Cf. Sections 71 and 72 of the Education Order

The Study Board's additional resolutions:

Pre-approved courses and courses already passed at the two MSc in Strategic Entrepreneurship partner universities are course conceded to the University of Southern Denmark including the grades and ECTS credits obtained at the institution, where the respective courses have been passed.

6.2 Complaints

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The student may appeal the University's decisions according to the Education Order to the Ministry of Science, Technology and Development if the complaint concerns legal matters. The complaint must be submitted to the University that must produce a statement on which the complainant is allowed to comment within a deadline of at least one week. The University must forward the complaint to the Ministry with the statement and any comments from the complainant.

The deadline for complaints is two weeks from the date on which the complainant was informed of the decision.

Cf. Section 76 of the Education Order

6.3 Transitional rules

This curriculum has been prepared under the provisions of Order No. 338 of May 6th 2004 on Bachelor and Master Studies at the Universities and is effective at the universities for students matriculated on September 1st 2007 or later.

The last examination held according to the previous curriculum is held in the winter of 2007. The courses that are replaced by other courses with the same content, but which might have obtained another title, are always assessed according to the most recent syllabus.

Students enrolled in this study according to a previous curriculum, which want to be transferred to this curriculum, must send an application for this to the Study Board.

When a student has been transferred to the present curriculum it is not possible to subsequently to be enrolled according to a previous curriculum.

If a student has not completed the study prior to the phasing out of the curriculum, the student is referred to apply to the Study Board, which will then decide what courses or curriculum that will replace this one.