

Peerreview Faculty of Business and Economics – public report master applied economic sciences: business economics

Most important conclusions from the peerreview

The report of the peerreviewteam mentions a number of strong points of the programme, and also includes suggestions to improve the programme. These suggestions are already processed by the programme in the development plan for the coming period. Below the most important conclusions of the peerreview are given.

Strengths of the programme

The study programmes can be proud of their education that achieves a high quality standard. This is expressed mainly by the satisfaction of their students. The peerreviewteam has detected a strong quality culture in the various study programmes, based on a powerful mission – which deserves appreciation - and fed by a lot of consultation concerning education. The programmes are very strong in terms of their internationalization and their efforts to put exchanges in place with high-quality partner institutions and their efforts concerning internationalisation@home. In addition, the numerous efforts for blended learning are highly valued, in particular the development of the FBE Learning Channel. The programmes, offered by the Faculty of Business and Economics work strongly student-centered, which is shown by many different initiatives.

The programme in Business Economics stand out in a great proximity of the lecturers to their students. In addition, the English-language Master's programme is seen as a major asset for the programmes in Business Economics.

Suggestions for further improvement

First of all, attention should be awarded to the creation of a formal body for student representation. The programmes can strengthen themselves too by setting up a more focused marketing and strengthened attention for secondary schools, with the aim of encouraging more students for an economic programme at the university of Antwerp. Concerning internationalization, the peerreviewteam states that the programmes best aim for more interaction with and integration of incoming international students. For this, the faculty already enrolled a pilot project. It is recommended by the peerreviewteam to work on a program-specific alumni community and to continue the efforts for graduating students. In the different study programmes, more explicit attention can be awarded to ethics, sustainability and innovation and entrepreneurship, which the programmes are willing to do. Finally, the programmes are encouraged to keep looking for best practices and new technology to enhance their education and the learning of their students.

The programme in Business Economics must ensure the distinction with the programme in Economic Policy at the start of the bachelor's programme is made clear for students. In addition, sufficient practical applications should be included in the English Master's programme.

Most recent peerreview Faculty of Business and Economics

Timing

The site visit of the peerreviewteam took place **May 15, 16 and 17**.

Peerreview team

The programme suggested external and internal candidates as members of the peerreviewteam. The student member is suggested by the Department of Education, with approval of the Student association of UAntwerp. Chairman of the peerreviewteam was appointed by the vice-rector Education. The composition of the peerreviewteam was validated on November 22nd, 2017 by the Board of Programme Evaluation.

Composition of the peerreviewteam Business and Economics:

Chairwoman:

- Guido De Meyer, professor (FBD)

External members:

- Sophie Péters, associate Dean Internationalisation (ICHEC Brussels School of Management)
- Philip Vergauwen, dean (Solvay Brussels)

Internal member:

- Walter Sevenhans, dean (FTI)

Studentmember:

- Jeroen Van Eijk, Ma1 geneeskunde (FGGW)

Result Peerreview

The peerreviewteam decided to **confirm confidence** in the programmes of the Faculty of Business and Economics:

- Bachelor in de toegepaste economische wetenschappen: bedrijfskunde,
- Master in de toegepaste economische wetenschappen: bedrijfskunde,
- Master in Applied Economic Sciences: Business Economics,
- Bachelor in de toegepaste economische wetenschappen: economisch beleid,
- Master in de toegepaste economische wetenschappen: economisch beleid,
- Master in Applied Economic Sciences: Economic Policy,
- Bachelor in de toegepaste economische wetenschappen: handelsingenieur,
- Master in de toegepaste economische wetenschappen: handelsingenieur,
- Bachelor in de toegepaste economische wetenschappen: handelsingenieur in de beleidsinformatica,
- Master in de toegepaste economische wetenschappen: handelsingenieur in de beleidsinformatica,
- Master in het cultuurmanagement, en
- Master in de organisatie en het management.

Creation

With regard to the peerreview, the programme made a self-reflection report, describing her vision, good practices, challenges and future prospects. The Department of Education developed a data sheet in consultation with the programme, containing qualitative (learning outcomes, study programme, staff information...) and quantitative data (amount of enrolments, student success rates, cohort analysis,...) about the programme.

In consultation with the Department of Education the programme drew up a time schedule to interview the staff responsible for the programme, students, lecturers, assistants, external partners and alumni. During the interviews between the peerreviewteam and the programme the CIKO staff member of the faculty was present.

The peerreviewteam evaluated the programme based on qualitative and quantitative information, as the interviews and the preparatory documents: the self-reflection report, the data sheet and the education portfolio of the programme.

The peerreview took place conform the [European Standards & Guidelines](#).

Report and follow up

All findings of the peerreviewteam are written down in a review report. The review report names several strengths of the programme, and some suggestions for further improvement. The programme took these suggestions into account in a development plan.

The integrated report – review report and development plan – was validated together with the public information by the Board of Programme Evaluation on 25th October 2018 and was presented to the Education Board on 18th December 2018 and the Executive Board of UAntwerp on 22nd January 2019.