



Faculty of Social Sciences

SADVS, Master of Science Programme in Development Studies, 120 credits

Masterprogram i utvecklingsstudier, 120 högskolepoäng

Second cycle degree programme requiring previous university study / *Program med akademiska förkunskapskrav och med slutlig examen på avancerad nivå*

Decision

The programme syllabus is established by Pro dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences 14-03-2019 (U 2019/127) and most recently amended 06-09-2019 (Dnr U 2019/403). The amended syllabus is valid from 15-10-2019, autumn semester 2020.

Programme description

The programme is an interdisciplinary Master's programme in social sciences focusing on problems of poverty and human development. It deals with key issues and problems of development, as well as different theoretical approaches to increase the students understanding of the preconditions for and content of development.

The purpose of the programme is to provide the student with the background knowledge and concrete skills to understand assess and work in development-related fields, either with direct poverty reduction or with other aspects of social and institutional development. The student will learn a critical social science approach which will prepare him or her for postgraduate studies as well as for contributing to sustainable human development in professional roles such as policy makers, trainers or practitioners, in government agencies, private firms and NGOs.

Goals

Pursuant to the Higher Education Ordinance, for a degree of Master (120 credits and 60 credits respectively) the student shall:

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the chosen field of study, including both broad knowledge of the field and a considerable degree of specialised knowledge in certain areas of the field as well as insight into current research and development work, and
- demonstrate specialised methodological knowledge in the chosen field of study.

For a Degree of Master (60 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the chosen field of study, including both an overview of the field and specialised knowledge in certain areas of the field as well as insight into current research and development work, and
- demonstrate specialised methodological knowledge in the chosen field of study.

Competence and skills

For a Degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations even with limited information
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues critically, autonomously and creatively as well as to plan and, using appropriate methods, undertake advanced tasks within predetermined time frames and so contribute to the formation of knowledge as well as the ability to evaluate this work
- demonstrate the ability in speech and writing both nationally and internationally to clearly report and discuss his or her conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences, and
- demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development work or autonomous employment in some other qualified capacity.

For a Degree of Master (60 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge and analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations even with limited information
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues autonomously as well as to plan and, using appropriate methods, undertake advanced tasks within predetermined time frames
- demonstrate the ability in speech and writing to report clearly and discuss his or her conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences, and
- demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development work or employment in some other qualified capacity.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the chosen field of study informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues and also to

- demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

For a Degree of Master (60 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the chosen field of study informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues and also to demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

In addition to the outcomes stated in the Higher Education Ordinance, for a degree of Master of Science (120 credits or 60 credits) in Development Studies the student shall:

- have developed a holistic outlook and understanding for perspectives based on disciplines other than his or her own,
- possess knowledge of issues concerning poverty and human development: causes, interrelations, feedback, and possible solutions, especially in relation to the different dimensions of human development and the political means and constraints in working towards these aims,
- be able to work in a trans-disciplinary setting and in a multi-cultural, international environment to prepare and implement long-term sustainable solutions to developmental issues, using a critical social science approach, and
- possess knowledge about scientific channels of communication, and be able to monitor the academic development within their field of study and employ referencing systems.

Course information

The programme comprises a total of 120 higher education credits, including a Master's thesis of 30 credits.

The first term begins with a profile course introducing the student to the main themes and issues of the programme. This is followed by courses in theory of science for the social sciences, and/or in research methods, which provides the student with the skills required for independent research.

The second term begins with another profile course directly related to the main theme of the programme. The profile course increases students understanding and knowledge of global development through deepening his or her comprehension of theories and current research.

This is followed, in the second half of the second term, by courses in theory of science and/or research methods.

The third term consists of elective courses to be taken at Lund University or any other recognised university in Sweden or abroad. The courses are chosen with the approval of the programme coordinator, and enables the student to tailor the programme to suit his or her particular interests.

During the fourth and last term the student complete the programme by writing a thesis, which provides the student with the opportunity to demonstrate his or her understanding of theories, methods and argumentation.

The courses are studied in the following order:

- Theories and Issues in Development, 15 credits (first half of the first term)
- Theory of science and/or research methods, 15 credits (second half of the first term)
- Historical Aspects of Development, 15 credits (first half of the second term)
- Theory of science and/or research methods, 15 credits (second half of the second term)
- Elective courses, 30 credits (the third term)
- Master's (Two Years) thesis in the students major social science discipline, 30 credits (the fourth term)

Degree

Degree titles

Degree of Master of Science (120 credits) in Development Studies

Major: Development Studies

Major: Gender Studies

Major: Human Geography

Major: Political Science

Major: Social Anthropology

Major: Social Work

Major: Sociology

Major: Sociology of Law

Filosofie masterexamen i utvecklingsstudier

Huvudområde: Genusvetenskap

Huvudområde: Rättssociologi

Huvudområde: Samhällsgeografi

Huvudområde: Socialantropologi

Huvudområde: Socialt arbete

Huvudområde: Sociologi

Huvudområde: Statsvetenskap

Huvudområde: Utvecklingsstudier

Degree of Master of Science (60 credits) in Development Studies

Major: Development Studies

Major: Gender Studies

Major: Human Geography

Major: Political Science

Major: Social Anthropology

Major: Social Work

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Filosofie magisterexamen i utvecklingsstudier

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Huvudområde: Statsvetenskap
Huvudområde: Utvecklingsstudier

For a degree of Master of Science (120 credits) within the programme, the student must have passed the courses specified under "Course information" (or the equivalent courses at another higher education institution). Of the required 30 credits in theory of science and/or research methods, at least 15 credits must be in research methods.

It is also possible to acquire a degree of Master of Science (60 credits) in Development Studies after completion of the following required courses:

- Theories and Issues in Development, 15 credits
- Theory of science and/or research methods, 15 credits
- Historical Aspect of Development, 15 credits
- Master's (One Year) thesis, 15 credits

Requirements and Selection method

Requirements

To be eligible for the programme the applicant must have the equivalent of a Swedish Bachelor's degree with a major (i.e. at least 90 ECTS credits) in one of the following social sciences disciplines: Development studies, Gender Studies, Human Geography, Political Science, Social Work, Social Anthropology, Sociology, Sociology of Law or equivalent.

A good command of English language both spoken and written, equivalent to English B/6 (advanced) proficiency in the Swedish secondary system, is required. Equivalence assessments will be made according to national guidelines.

Selection method

The applicant's estimated capacity to complete the programme is the primary criterion for selection. Students are selected on the basis of their previous study results (grades on courses and thesis in the Bachelor's degree), proficiency in English and a statement of purpose. Since this a multidisciplinary programme it is essential to attain an even distribution among different majors within the group. The number of admitted applicants from one major shall not exceed 30 % of all students admitted to the programme. Hence the applicant's major will be used as a selection criterion in case of many applicants from one major. The following main fields of study are eligible as majors: Gender Studies, Development Studies, Human Geography, Political Science, Social Work, Social Anthropology, Sociology and Sociology of Law.

Other information

The language of instruction and assessment is English.

Instructions regarding teaching and examination are given in the syllabus for each course respectively.