



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Social Sciences

Dnr U 2016/414

A. Master of Science Programme (120 credits) in Social Studies of Gender
(Masterprogram i genusstudier)

Credits: 120 higher education credits

Cycle: Second cycle

Programme code: SASSG

The syllabus for the Master of Science Programme in Social Studies of Gender was approved by the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences April 22, 2010. It was revised June 10, 2010 and May 3, 2012, September 27, 2012 and October 17, 2013. The revised syllabus was approved by the Dean on June 23rd, 2015 in accordance with the decision in the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences on June 11th, 2015 and by the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences September 15, 2016. The syllabus is valid from the autumn term 2017.

B. Programme Description

The programme is an interdisciplinary Master's programme in social sciences which aims to provide students with the core elements through which current feminist theories, in dialogue with established academic disciplines, have contributed to the understanding of broader social processes. The major objective of the programme is to improve the students' ability to critically examine, evaluate and discuss the most important theoretical perspectives and research results in the field. With these skills students will be able to formulate and analyse inter-connections between theory and practice concerning gender, class, ethnicity and sexuality.

Students will learn a critical social science approach which will prepare them for postgraduate studies as well as for professional work in a variety of fields: health, organisational management, development, communication, social policy among others.

C. Outcomes

In accordance with the Swedish Higher Education Ordinance (Annex 2 Qualification ordinance), for a degree of Master of Science (120 credits) in Social Studies of Gender students must reach the following outcomes:

Knowledge and understanding

For a Master Science (120 credits) in Social Studies of Gender the student shall

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main 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 main field of study.

Competence and skills

For a Master Science (120 credits) in Social Studies of Gender 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 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 autonomous employment in some other qualified capacity.

Judgement and approach

For a Master Science (120 credits) in Social Studies of Gender the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the main 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 these objectives, on completion of the programme students shall:

- have acquired a holistic outlook and understanding for perspectives based on disciplines other than their own
- be able to formulate and analyse interconnections between theory and practice in the field of gender, class, ethnicity and sexuality
- have developed an understanding of the central role of gender in organisations
- be able to critically re-read social and development policies from a gender perspective

- be able to operationalise gender analysis in order to provide concrete proposals regarding gender equality in politics, education and health
- possess knowledge about scientific channels of communication, and be able to monitor the academic development within their field of study and employ referencing systems.

D. 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 students 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 students with the skills required for independent research.

The second term begins with a second profile course directly related to the main theme of the programme. The profile course increases the students' understanding and knowledge of gender issues through deepening their 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 or an internship. The courses are chosen with the approval of the programme coordinator, and enable students to tailor the programme to suit their particular interests.

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

The courses are studied in the following order:

- Gender, Class, Ethnicity and Sexuality, 15 credits (first half of the first term)
- Theory of science and/or research methods, 15 credits (second half of the first term)
- Critical Feminist Perspectives in Social Theory, 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 thesis in the student's major social science discipline, 30 credits (the fourth term)

E. Degree

Upon completion of the programme a degree of Master of Science (120 credits) in Social Studies of Gender is awarded. To acquire a Master's degree within the programme the student must have taken the courses required under D above (or corresponding courses at other universities). Of the required 30 course credits in theory of science and/or research methods, at least 15 credits must be in research methods.

The students will acquire a degree of Master of Science (120 credits) in Social Studies of Gender, with a major in one of the following main fields of study:

- Gender Studies
- Development Studies
- Human Geography
- Education
- Political Science
- Social Work
- Social Anthropology
- Sociology
- Sociology of Law

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

1. Gender, Class, Ethnicity and Sexuality, 15 credits
2. Theory of science and/or research methods, 15 credits
3. Critical Feminist Perspectives in Social Theory, 15 credits
4. Master's (60 credits) thesis, 15 credits

F. Admission Requirements and Selection Procedure

The programme builds on previous studies in the Social Sciences. To be eligible for the programme students must have a Bachelor's degree with a major in one of the following social sciences disciplines: development studies, education, gender studies, human geography, political science, social work, social anthropology, sociology and 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.

Foreign students are exempted from the basic university eligibility requirement of commanding the Swedish language.

The applicant's estimated capacity to complete the programme is the primary criterion for selection. Students who fulfil the special eligibility requirements are selected on the basis of their previous study results (grades on courses and Bachelor's degree essay), proficiency in English and either a statement of purpose or a draft thesis proposal.

G. Further Information

The medium of instruction is English, which means that lectures and seminars are given in English, examinations are in English, and students' essays are written in English.

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

Students who have completed studies equivalent to courses within the programme may apply to have these courses accredited.