



## Programme syllabus

Faculty Board of Business, Economics and Design  
School of Design

Design, masterprogram, 120 högskolepoäng

Design, Master Programme, 120 credits

### **Level**

Second Level

### **Establishment of Programme**

Established by Organisational Committee 2009-12-15

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved by Committee for First and Second Cycle under the Faculty Board of Business, Economics and Design 2009-12-15

The programme syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2011

Revised 2010-11-03

### **Prerequisites**

Basic eligibility for second-level studies and special eligibility in:

- a minimum of 90 higher education credits in Design (including a degree project/independent project comprising at least 15 higher education credits) or the equivalent
- English B or the equivalent.

## Description of Programme

The Master's programme in design is a two-year design education on artistic basis with design as the main field of study. The aim of the programme is that the students shall be well qualified for work within the design field. During the education the students create knowledge of how to create articulated design proposals on a high artistic level with deepened knowledge regarding approaches and methods, which makes the student well prepared for work with different kinds of design processes.

An important part is the development of theoretical knowledge for analysis and reflection of design in relation to people and society. One other important part of the education is that the student participates in larger complex design projects with several different stakeholders involved.

Since some courses are elective there is an opportunity to profile one's education. The first semester all students participate in the courses, while there is a possibility to choose between courses the second and third semester. The fourth and last semester all students conduct an individual degree project.

## Objectives

### **Qualitative targets**

### *Knowledge and understanding*

For a degree of Master of Arts (Two Years) students must

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in their main field of study, including both broad knowledge in the field and substantially deeper knowledge of parts of the field, together with deeper insight into current research and development work; and
- demonstrate familiarity with methods and processes for dealing with complex phenomena, issues and situations in the field.

### *Skills and abilities*

For a degree of Master of Arts (Two Years) students must

- demonstrate an ability to independently and creatively formulate new questions and contribute to the development of knowledge; solve more advanced problems; develop new and personal means of expression; and reflect critically on their own and other people's artistic approaches, within their main field of study;
- demonstrate an ability to create and realise their own artistic ideas, giving them well-developed personal expression; to independently identify, formulate and solve artistic and design problems; and to plan and, using appropriate methods, perform advanced artistic tasks within specified time limits;
- demonstrate an ability to clearly present and discuss their activities and artistic issues in dialogue with different groups, orally, in writing or in some other way, in both national and international contexts; and
- demonstrate the skills and knowledge required to work independently in professional life.

### *Judgement and approach*

For a degree of Master of Arts (Two Years) students must

- demonstrate an ability to make assessments in their main field of study, taking into account relevant artistic, social and ethical aspects;
- demonstrate insight into the role of art in society; and
- demonstrate an ability to identify their need of further knowledge and to take responsibility for developing their knowledge.

## **Programme specific qualitative targets**

### *Knowledge and understanding*

For a degree of Master of Arts (Two Years) students must

- demonstrate advanced insights in current research and development work within the field of design, and
- demonstrate a great deal of acquaintance with theories, methods, techniques and processes in order to deal with complex phenomena, questions and contexts relevant for the field of design.

### *Skills and abilities*

For a degree of Master of Arts (Two Years) students must

- demonstrate ability to create proposals that are relevant for the assignment or commission, and thereby independently identify, formulate and solve designerly problems, and with adequate methods carry out qualified design assignments within given time spans.

### *Judgement and approach*

For a degree of Master of Arts (Two Years) students must

- demonstrate deepened insights regarding opportunities for design in the society.

## Content

### Organization

The programme has a person who is responsible for the coordination of the programme. This person maintains its level of quality and is responsible for all issues from individual contacts with the students to development of the courses and programme.

A programme committee that consists of representatives for the students and teachers meet 2–3 times per semester in order to work with issues of quality and development of the programme.

The teacher responsible for respective course is also responsible for conducting a course evaluation at the end of the course, and that the result from this will be communicated to the students through the programme committee.

### Programme Overview

Briefly the programme is organised the following way:

During the first semester the student has focus on developing a critical and analytical approach. The student develops the capacity to reflect, understand and articulate current situations. The student creates knowledge and experience mostly by working with artefacts and situations that are available.

The second semester has focus on creating and articulating design proposals. Here the student creates advanced knowledge about and experience of different methods by working from different positions, approaches and contexts.

During the third semester the student conducts design work in order to create proposals with an emphasis on wholeness and complexity. The students should specialize with respect to e.g. material, approach or context through eligible courses. Thereby the student can create an individually chosen profilation. This semester can also be used for studies abroad.

During the forth and last semester the student conducts an independent design project and an academic thesis. This project can be conducted together with a company or independently. The student creates deepened knowledge in a specific area of the design field.

A seminar series where issues of immediate importance and other relevant aspects are discussed runs during the whole programme

### Programme Courses

#### *Year 1*

Material culture and practices, 7.5 credits, Design, A1N.

Philosophy of Science with emphasis on Design, 7.5 credits, Design/Philosophy, A1N.

Methods for exploration, 7.5 credits, Design, A1N.

Articulation, 4.5 credits, Design, A1N.

Seminar series I, 3 credits, Design, A1N.

Human centered design, processes, methodology, elective course, 7.5 credits, Design, A1F.

Sustainable ways of living, elective course, 7,5 credits, Design, A1N.

Design, advanced study I, 7.5 credits, Design, A1F.

Design, advanced study II, 7.5 credits, Design, A1F.

Design theory, advanced study, 4.5 credits, Design, A1F.

Seminar series II, 3 credits, Design, A1N.

### *Year 2*

Co-operative design work, methodology, deepened studies, elective course, 7.5 credits, Design, A1F.

Sustainable homes, elective course, 7.5 credits, Design, A1F.

Design in practice, advanced study I, 7.5 credits, Design, A1F.

Design in practice, advanced study, Project Work, 12 credits, A1F.

Seminar series III, 3 credits, Design, A1F.

*or*

Studies abroad, 30 credits, Design, A1F.

Design, Degree project (Master's level), 30 credits, A2E.

Elective courses enable the student to deepen an individually chosen profile.

The student can also adjust the studies by choosing among other courses at the Linnæus University in consultation with the person responsible for the programme.

Courses within the programme may change places.

All courses are within the main field of study design.

### **Work Experience, Community Contacts**

Lectures with people currently conducting professional work within the design field, study visits and workshops give the student the opportunity to get in contact with professional life.

The degree project as well as other projects can be conducted in co-operating with a company or organisation.

### **Studies abroad**

Studies abroad during are best conducted during the third term. Studies abroad are decided together with the person responsible for the programme.

### **Scope of Programme**

Aspects of equality of opportunity, sex, cross sexual identity or expression, ethnicity, religion or other belief, disability, sexual disposition and age are fundamental in two ways in the education. It is central that students have equal value and shall be able to work under the same fundamental conditions. Equality is a question of justice and work is focussed against the factors and characteristics that can put an individual in a disadvantageous position in relation to the collective. But it is equally important that these perspectives always are present in design processes in order to ensure that future artefacts support this way of looking at equality.

Design work is an important driving force in society and it is our goal that the students conduct design processes based on people's participation, knowledge and understanding which, combined with the ability to critically examine the possibilities and limitations, are aimed at the creation of artefacts that support an equal and sustainable society.

In order to be able to conduct design work on an advanced level it is important to have knowledge regarding international design fields. This is created during the project work, theoretical studies and the seminar series. The international perspective is also strengthened since students from several countries participate in the education.

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## Quality Development

Continuous evaluation and improvements are done partly with the help of course evaluations. Students also participate actively in the development of the programme through the programme committee. In addition to the course evaluations a programme evaluation is conducted at the end of the education. The result of the evaluations are communicated with the students and is used in the work with developing the quality.

## Degree Certificate

Students that have completed the Master programme (Two Years) in design in accordance with the qualitative targets can apply for and acquire the following degree certificate:

*Master of Arts (Two Years)*  
*(Main field of study: Design)*

The degree certificate is bilingual (Swedish/English). Together with it follows a Diploma Supplement (English).

## Other Information

In order to facilitate and visualise the students own progress through the workbook method or equivalent is used as a pedagogical instrument during the whole programme. The methods have focus on reflection during the learning process, which means This means that the student continuously formulates and conducts her or his own progression with the support of tutors. Five different key aspects are used: production, perception, reflection, way of working and complexity.

The student should calculate with a cost for material, and expenses for study travels and travels between campus.