



Programme syllabus

School of Business and Economics

Turism och hållbarhet, masterprogram, 120 högskolepoäng

Tourism and Sustainability, Master Programme, 120 credits

Level

Second Level

Date of Ratification

Approved by the Faculty Board within the School of Business and Economics 2014-09-11

The programme syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2015

Prerequisites

General entry requirements for studies at second cycle and specific entry requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in tourism studies or in another social science main field of study or equivalent
- English B/6 or equivalent.

Description of Programme

The Programme caters for those interested in tourism from a sustainability perspective and provides knowledge and skills required for participation in research and qualified development work within this area. Based on a tourism studies subject foundation, the Programme provides a comprehensive specialisation in social, cultural, financial and environmental aspects of tourism from a sustainability perspective, including sustainable development. There is a clear focus on provision of skills for analysing, planning and evaluating tourism and tourism-related operations based on different sustainability aspects. The Programme contains individual options and specialisms, and the opportunity to conduct projects and theses related to the operations. The Programme provides skills for working with planning and evaluation of tourism and tourism-related operations within private and public operations.

Objectives

Central degree objectives in accordance with the Higher Education Ordinance

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Master (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 certain parts of the field, together with deeper insight into current research and development work; and
- demonstrate deeper methodological knowledge in their main field of study.

Skills and abilities

For a Degree of Master (Two Years) students must

- demonstrate an ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and to analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations, even when limited information is available;
- demonstrate an ability to critically, independently and creatively identify and formulate issues and to plan and, using appropriate methods, carry out advanced tasks within specified time limits, so as to contribute to the development of knowledge and to evaluate this work;
- demonstrate an ability to clearly present and discuss their conclusions and the knowledge and arguments behind them, in dialogue with different groups, orally and in writing, in national and international contexts; and
- demonstrate the skill required to participate in research and development work or to work independently in other advanced contexts.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Master (Two Years) students must

- demonstrate an ability to make assessments in their main field of study, taking into account relevant scientific, social and ethical aspects, and demonstrate an awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work;
- demonstrate insight into the potential and limitations of science, its role in society and people's responsibility for how it is used; and
- demonstrate an ability to identify their need of further knowledge and to take responsibility for developing their knowledge.

Programme specific objectives

Knowledge and understanding

For the Master's degree in tourism studies the student should

- demonstrate essential specialist knowledge within tourism from a sustainability perspective and specialist insight into current research and development work within this area

Skills and abilities

For the Master's degree in tourism studies the student should

- demonstrate the required skills for participation in research and development work of tourism from a sustainability perspective

Judgement and approach

For the Master's degree in tourism studies the student should

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments taking into account relevant scientific, societal and ethical aspects of tourism from a sustainability perspective and demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects in research and development work within this area.

Content

The Programme is located and taught at the School of Business and Economics. A programme coordinator is responsible for the Programme's coordination, contact with students and for follow-up and development of the Programme. The Programme also has a programme council where students and stakeholders are represented.

Program overview

The first year of the Programme is studied together with those attending the Master's programme in tourism studies specialising in sustainability. The first term is structured to gather students with different educational backgrounds and is therefore initiated with

tourism studies which are linked to current subject theory and research. Thereafter the Programme moves onto addressing tourism from social, cultural, political, environmental, economic and other aspects of sustainability. The term ends with an individual specialism which is adapted based on individual conditions and needs. The second term develops skills and approaches within analysis, planning and evaluation of tourism from a sustainability perspective and ends with optional courses of 15 credits, alternatively a thesis on your chosen specialization within the area of sustainability for those who prefer to write two small theses (15 credits + 15 credits). The third term comprises optional courses of 30 credits and thereby permits an entire term of studies abroad. The Programme ends with a research based thesis of 30 credits (alternatively 15 credit thesis and 15 credit optional courses).

Courses in the Programme

Term 1

Tourism studies and tourism theory, 7.5 credits, level A1N, (obligatory)*

Tourism and the Anthropocene, 15 credits, level A1N, (obligatory)*

Individual project in tourism studies, 7.5 credits, level A1N, (obligatory)*

Term 2

Evaluation and planning of tourism sustainability, 7.5 credits, level A1F, (obligatory)*

Methodology, 7.5 credits, level A1F, (obligatory) * Optional courses, 15 credits
alternatively

Tourism studies, Master's thesis, 15 credits, level A1E*

Term 3

Optional courses, 30 credits

(at least 15 credits should be on second cycle in accordance with the local Qualifications Ordinance for Linnaeus University)

Term 4

Tourism studies, Master's thesis, 15 credits, level A2E, (obligatory)*

Optional courses, 15 credits
alternatively

Tourism studies, Master's thesis, 30 credits, level A2E, (obligatory)*

* = course in main field of study

cobligatory = obligatory course for Master's degree in tourism studies, specialism sustainability

Community contacts

The Programme is related to operations and offers students the opportunities for qualified investigation tasks and investigation assignments which are conducted in the form of projects and theses. Collaboration with the surrounding community is institutionalised by stakeholders and privies being connected to the Programme. This ensures an influx of proposals and projects related to the operations for investigations and projects which entail analysing, planning and evaluating tourism from a sustainability perspective.

Studies abroad

The Programme permits studies abroad on your own for an entire semester (term 3). These can be conducted within the framework of the overall range of agreements with foreign universities within Linnaeus University or by students organising their studies at a foreign institute of higher education in another manner. The foreign studies are planned in consultation between students and programme coordinators.

Scope of the programme

The Programme's sustainability specialism also comprises the basis for work with the following perspectives in the Programme.

Sustainable development is constantly highlighted in the analysis and planning of sustainability. Moreover, political and scientific aspects of sustainable development in all courses are problematized.

Gender is used as a fundamental category in the study of tourism subject theory and gender theory is addressed in relation to theory of science and research methodology. Gender aspects of social, economic and environmental sustainability are included as an integrated part in all work which involves analysing or planning for tourism.

Diversity is highlighted through classic social science concepts such as ethnicity, gender, class, culture, power relations etc. and as a part of fundamental tourism and tourist theory. During the Programme students will encounter a range of different perceptions and theories on both science and sustainability, including sustainable development.

Internationalisation is given a practical basis as the Programme's language of instruction is English and through a deliberate effort to recruit international students with degrees from foreign institutes of higher education. In terms of the international perspective of the Programme, it is difficult to avoid an Anglo-Saxon touch of the tourism studies' literature and research. Deliberate efforts will be made within the courses to balance Eurocentric, western and colonial perspectives, something which also applies when sustainability and sustainable development are addressed.

Quality Development

Continuous evaluation and improvement of the programme takes place, e.g., through course evaluations which are compiled into written reports and reported back to the students. Students actively participate in the follow-up and development of the programme through the programme council. In addition to course evaluations, there is a programme evaluation at the end of the programme, which is also reported back to the students. Evaluation results are used in the programme's quality development work. Programme coordinators are responsible for evaluating the relevance of the programme in consultation with the industry and society at large.

Degree Certificate

After completing programme studies, corresponding to the requirements expressed in the Higher Education Ordinance degree order as well as Linnaeus University degree order, the student may apply for a degree. Those who have completed Tourism studies specialization and sustainability, Master Programme 120 credits, may obtain the following degree:

Students with a bachelor of a degree from the first level may obtain the following degree:

Master of Science (120 credits) with Specialization in Sustainability
(*Main field of study: Tourism Studies*)

The degree certificate is bilingual (Swedish/English). A Diploma Supplement (English) will be provided along with the degree certificate.

Other Information

In order to be admitted to the courses on the programme the specific requirements stated in each course syllabus must be fulfilled by the start of the course.