



## Programme syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Kulturarv i samtid och framtid, 180 högskolepoäng  
Heritage in present and future society, 180 credits

### **Level**

First cycle

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved 2021-12-06.

Revised 2026-02-05.

The programme syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2026.

### **Prerequisites**

General entry requirements for university studies.

## Description of Programme

Cultural heritage is material or immaterial remains and manifestations created and shaped by people throughout history, reminding us of the past. Cultural heritage includes, for example, prehistoric burial mounds, agricultural landscapes, historic buildings, archaeological artefacts, archival materials, cultural traditions, and rituals. The programme takes cultural heritage as its starting point, focusing on people and their surroundings. It examines how we value and use traces and remains from the past and how we plan the social, cultural and economic development of our environment for the future. The programme also explores how cultural heritage can be used to develop the present with a view to the future.

The programme combines theoretical courses with applied components in which the student works with concrete projects and issues arising in working life. After completing the programme, the student should be able to contribute to the preservation, use and development of cultural heritage in society.

Students develop broad competence which may lead to employment in, for example, the public cultural heritage sector (e.g. as an archaeologist or within community planning in general) or in the cultural economy (e.g. as a project manager in tourism or education). Other possible areas of employment include contract archaeology, administration of cultural heritage, heritage pedagogy, experience design, community planning, organisation and development within the cultural sector, and research in a

number of subjects.

## Objectives

### *Central qualitative targets according to the Higher Education Ordinance*

#### *Knowledge and understanding*

For a Degree of Bachelor the student shall

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including knowledge of the disciplinary foundation of the field, knowledge of applicable methods in the field, specialisation in some area of the field as well as awareness of current research issues.

#### *Competence and skills*

For a Degree of Bachelor the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to search for, evaluate and critically interpret relevant information for a formulated problem and also discuss phenomena, issues and situations critically,
- demonstrate the ability to identify, formulate and solve problems independently, as well as to complete tasks within a given time frame,
- demonstrate the ability to present and discuss information, problems and solutions in speech and writing and in dialogue with different groups, and
- demonstrate the skills required to work independently within the field with which the education is concerned.

#### *Judgement and approach*

For a Degree of Bachelor the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the main field of study informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues,
- demonstrate insight into the role of knowledge in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify their need for further knowledge and to develop their own competence.

#### *Programme-specific objectives*

After completing the programme, the student should be able to:

- give an account of the development of the cultural heritage sector and its current organisation and activities
- independently identify, critically discuss and solve problems on a scholarly basis related to the field of cultural heritage
- make independent and critical assessments on a scholarly basis within the main field of study
- work on projects concerned with the preservation, use and development of cultural heritage in society

- describe and analyse how the cultural heritage sector relates to cultural policy and major societal issues at national and international levels
- communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions in speech and writing in a professional manner
- apply their knowledge and skills in further studies at second-cycle level with a high degree of independence.

## Content

### ***Programme coordinators and Programme Council***

The programme is led by a programme coordinator who is responsible for the programme's quality assurance, development and coordination. A programme council is working for long-term and strategic development of the programme.

### ***Programme Overview***

The programme begins with one year of interdisciplinary courses focusing on current issues in the field of cultural heritage. The courses present and discuss different ways of working with heritage from national and international perspectives. Key components include concepts in heritage studies; how the cultural heritage sector can work more actively to promote and contribute to a socially sustainable future; the relationship between cultural heritage, cultural policy and societal development; the role and potential of cultural heritage in the development of the cultural economy; cultural heritage and entrepreneurship; and heritage education and communication with different target groups in society. In addition to lectures and seminars, the programme includes field trips and study visits, group work, guest lectures and practical exercises.

After the first year, one of the four main fields of study is studied for three semesters: archaeology, history, religious studies or geography up to 90 credits. This includes an independent project of 15 credits.

### ***Programme courses***

#### **Year 1 Semester 1**

##### **1KU006 Working with cultural heritage – an introduction, 15 credits G1N**

The course provides an introduction to cultural heritage and to the concept of cultural heritage, including a historical perspective and a systematic distinction between cultural heritage, the natural environment and natural heritage. Key issues include the values associated with cultural heritage and the relationship between cultural environments, cultural heritage and collective identities. The course also examines case studies and examples from different organisations in the cultural heritage sector and the cultural economy related to cultural heritage, from both national and international perspectives.

##### **1KU012 Heritage and socially sustainable futures, 7.5 credits G1N**

The course examines how cultural heritage and work in the cultural heritage sector can contribute to a more socially sustainable future. During the course, the relationship between cultural heritage and different types of futures is discussed and examined, drawing on theories of social sustainability. The course addresses different ways in which cultural heritage influences the future and what this means for work in the cultural heritage sector today. Tools for increasing future awareness within the cultural heritage sector are introduced, discussed and applied in relation to a specific heritage environment.

##### **1KU065 Cultural policy – its possibilities and limits, 7.5 credits, G1N**

The course begins with a discussion of the different dimensions of culture as a concept. It then examines the local, regional, national and international conditions shaping cultural policy. This provides a basis for exploring the different ideological dimensions of cultural heritage and various forms of cultural expression in their social contexts. Particular attention is given to institutional conditions, the circumstances of national minorities within cultural life and future challenges for cultural policy.

## **Year 1 Semester 2**

### **1KU056 Cultural heritage and communication, 15 credits G1N**

The course examines how the values associated with cultural heritage are communicated in society. It includes a critical review of what is communicated, who communicates it, how, to whom and for what purpose. Different communication techniques are discussed, such as guided tours, reconstructions, works of art, living history, books, popular science articles, exhibitions and digital media.

### **1KU075 Heritage, entrepreneurship and project, 15 credits G1N**

The course content lies at the intersection of cultural heritage and entrepreneurship. The course provides an introduction to the importance of entrepreneurship for the development of cultural heritage. At the same time, the different roles of cultural heritage in entrepreneurial processes are examined. Alongside this, a business development project is carried out in groups. The resulting business model then forms the basis for a project plan.

## **Year 2 Semesters 3 and 4**

Archaeology I, 30 credits, G1N\*

Archaeology II, 30 credits, G1F\*

or

Geography I, 30 credits, G1N\*

Geography II, 30 credits, G1F\*

or

History, general course, 30 credits, G1N\*

History, general course, continuation course, 30 credits, G1F\*

or

The Study of Religions, general course I, 30 credits, G1N\*

Religious Studies, Continuation Course II, 30 credits, G1F\*

\* The student must choose one of the given main fields of study.

Alternatively, the student may replace one or both courses with exchange studies of an equivalent number of credits within the chosen main field of study.

## **Year 3 Semester 5**

Archaeology III, 30 credits, G2E\*

or

Geography III, 30 credits, G2E\*

or

History, Thematic Bachelor's Course, 30 credits, G2E\*

or

The Study of Religions, Bachelor course, 30 credits, G2E\*

\*continued studies in the chosen main field of study.

## **Year 3 Semester 6**

## **2KU302, Practical Placement Relating to Cultural Heritage, 30 credits G2F**

This course is a placement at a workplace related to the student's main field of study. The focus is on reflection on the working environment, the organisation's work and the student's own skills and learning. As part of the course, the student completes a project in accordance with the requirements of the workplace.

### ***Societal relevance***

During the first year of the programme, students have regular contact with and visit various workplaces within the cultural heritage sector, such as county administrative boards, museums and companies operating in the cultural heritage and tourism sectors. Students gain insight into the labour market and which sectors offer employment opportunities.

The programme concludes with a semester-long placement at a workplace in the cultural heritage field in Sweden or abroad. It may be with a cultural entrepreneur, in cultural administration, at a museum, in an educational institution, or with a consultancy specialising in spatial planning, to mention a few possibilities. As part of the placement, the student completes a project that addresses a current issue within the cultural heritage field related to the work of the host organisation. The student is responsible for finding their own placement in consultation with the course coordinator.

### ***Internationalisation***

The programme offers opportunities to study abroad as part of the programme's main field of study component, with the second year (main field of study courses, 1–60 credits) particularly well suited to exchange studies that can be credited towards the programme. In consultation with the programme coordinator, students may choose from Linnaeus University's full range of exchange agreements with foreign higher education institutions. The degree project and the project carried out during the final semester may usefully be based on international or intercultural themes. Students may therefore choose to undertake field studies abroad for research purposes, for example to collect material for their project. The placement in semester 6 takes the form of work-based learning and may advantageously be carried out at international authorities, organisations or companies in Sweden, or with institutions abroad.

The course literature is carefully selected to reflect cultural heritage and its role both locally and regionally in Sweden and Scandinavia and internationally in Europe and the world. During the first year of the programme, cultural heritage is consistently illustrated and analysed using examples drawn from local, national and international contexts.

When the Department hosts international researchers specialising in cultural heritage, guest lectures are organised so that students can benefit from the perspectives of the visiting researchers.

### ***Sustainable societal development***

The programme addresses issues concerning sustainable development, gender, cultural diversity and internationalisation in relation to cultural heritage, both in programme-specific courses during semesters 1, 2 and 6, and in the main fields of study. Courses in the first semester problematise the role of cultural heritage in sustainable development as well as the importance of cultural heritage from the perspective of diversity. The cultural heritage sector's work towards a socially sustainable future is the focus of a 7.5 course during Semester 1 (1KU012). International perspectives are included in the first two semesters as well as in the main fields of study. Gender issues are addressed in each of the main fields of study. The integration and examination of these perspectives in the programme are specified in the syllabus for each course.

## Quality Development

Evaluations are conducted continuously after each completed course, and at the end of the programme. Systematic quality work is conducted continuously by course co-ordinators in collaboration with the programme co-ordinator, the Programme Council, and the faculty.

The Faculty of Arts and Humanities has a quality assurance system for the monitoring and development of its programmes. An education board prepares programme syllabuses and handles other matters relating to quality issues, such as degree-awarding powers and programme provision, before decisions are taken by the faculty board. Revised and new course syllabuses are prepared by the syllabus committee before they are approved by the head of department. The range of courses and programmes on offer is reviewed on a regular basis as part of the faculty's systematic quality assurance work.

## Degree

After completing their studies in accordance with the requirements stated in the Qualification Ordinance in the Higher Education Ordinance and in Linnaeus University's local Qualification Ordinance, the student may apply for a degree. Students who have completed the programme "Heritage in present and future society" may obtain the following degree:

Filosofie kandidatexamen med inriktning mot kulturarv i samtid och framtid  
*Huvudområde: Arkeologi, geografi, historia eller religionsvetenskap*

Degree of Bachelor of Arts with a Specialisation in Heritage in Present and Future Society

Main field of study: Archaeology, Geography, History or Religious Studies

The degree certificate is issued in two languages (Swedish and English). A Diploma Supplement in English is enclosed with the degree certificate.

## Other Information

Any additional costs for accommodation and travel arising in connection with the placement are covered by the student.

In the event of any discrepancies between the Swedish and English versions of this programme syllabus, the Swedish version takes precedence.