



Programme syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences

Pedagogik, magisterprogram, 60 högskolepoäng

Pedagogical Science Master's Programme, 60 credits

Level

Second cycle

Date of Ratification

Approved 2019-02-07.

Revised 2025-12-16.

The programme syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2026.

Prerequisites

General entry requirements for second-cycle studies, and specific entry requirements: 90 credits in the main field of Education or equivalent, including an independent thesis of a minimum of 15 credits, alternatively a teaching degree or other relevant equivalent professional degree comprising at least 180 credits, including an independent degree project of 15 credits.

Swedish 3 and English 5. Or: Swedish level 3 and English level 1.

Description of Programme

The aim of the programme is for students to develop a scientific basis for pedagogical work within a variety of professional fields. Possible employment may be found within the public, private or non-profit sectors, involving advanced pedagogical development or evaluation work. Another kind of employment involves work as advanced teacher or other supervisory position within the educational system. The programme also qualifies for third-cycle studies.

Objectives

Qualitative Targets in accordance with the Higher Education Ordinance

Knowledge and Understanding

For a Degree of Master (60 credits), students shall:

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including general knowledge of the field as well as specialised knowledge in certain areas of the field, and insight into current research and development work,
- demonstrate advanced knowledge of methodology within the main field of study.

Competence and Skills

For a Degree of Master (60 credits), students shall:

- demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge and analyse, evaluate and handle complex phenomena, issues and situations, also with limited information available,
- demonstrate the ability to independently identify and define problems and to plan and complete advanced tasks by the use of adequate methods and within given time frames,
- demonstrate the ability to orally as well as in writing clearly account for and discuss their conclusions as well as the knowledge and reasonings on which they are based, in dialogue with various groups,
- demonstrate the skills required to participate in research and development work, or skills required for employment in some other professional practice.

Judgement and Approach

For a Degree of Master (60 credits), students shall:

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the main field of study with regard to relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues, and demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects on 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,
- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and to develop the individual competence.

The above objectives are specified in each course syllabus included in the programme.

Content

The Pedagogical Science Master's Programme comprises 60 credits. The programme is organised by the Faculty of Social Sciences, and has an appointed programme coordinator who is responsible for the overall planning and coordination of the structure and content.

Programme Overview

The programme is offered at a 50 per cent study rate on campus, with approximately 6-8 meetings on site per semester and the language of instruction is Swedish. The programme will lead to a second-cycle qualification. The programme provides an opportunity for students to deepen their knowledge of key pedagogical issues such as pedagogical development work, organisational development, historical and social aspects on pedagogy, concepts such as knowledge and learning, and values and democracy issues.

The students are provided information about the choice of areas of specialisation during semester 1, and are given the opportunity to study certain courses based on the chosen specialisation. The students may choose between the following areas of specialisation:

- general education
- didactics and learning
- teachers' practice
- working life and adult education
- special education
- social pedagogy

Programme Courses

The order of the courses may change. The language of instruction is Swedish, with the exception of some courses that may be given in English. Specific entry requirements are applied for courses in the programme, which are specified in the course syllabuses.

Semester 1

*Educational science as a scientific discipline I, 7.5 credits A1N**

The aim of the course is for students to be able to critically reflect on the issues of education in a historical and social context, and be able to put these in relation to the development movements within an educational practice.

*Empirical Research and Theories I, 7.5 credits A1N**

The aim of the course is for students to be able to demonstrate advanced knowledge of the disciplinary foundation of the chosen specialisation, as it is presented in empirical research and theories, and of the correlation between science and best practice and its importance to the specialisation in question.

Semester 2

Optional course/-s at the first-cycle or second-cycle level, 15 credits.

Semester 3

*Qualitative Methods, 7.5 credits, A1N**

*Quantitative Methods, 7.5 credits A1N**

The aim of the courses is for students to gain a deeper understanding of the correlation between knowledge interest, research question and methodology, acquire advanced knowledge of research ethical issues and an understanding of various methodological approaches, and be able to conduct relevant statistical analyses and analyses of text-based materials.

Semester 4

*Independent Project with a Specialisation in General Education, 15 credits, A1E**

or

*Independent Project with a Specialisation in Didactics and Learning, 15 credits A1E**

or

*Independent Project with a Specialisation in Teachers' Practice, 15 credits A1E**

or

*Independent Project with a Specialisation in Working Life and Adult Education, 15 credits A1E**

or

*Independent Project with a Specialisation in Special Education, 15 credits A1E**

or

*Independent Project with a Specialisation in Social Pedagogy, 15 credits A1E**

The aim of the course is for students to conduct an independent project on the basis of a scientific approach, and to present their own findings and other academic studies in a stringent and interesting manner, and carry out a public discussion and examination of another study.

Societal Relevance

Issues on school, education, knowledge and learning are always of current interest, and these issues arise and develop in the interaction between the various schools within the disciplinary domain and the surrounding society. As a result of the globalisation of our society and the rate of these changes taking place, the need for lifelong learning within various areas in society is today emphasised. Educational studies provide a good foundation for how such learning may be understood. Students acquire a theoretical understanding of the growth and development of the concept, and knowledge of how this can be implemented in concrete analyses and applications.

Internationalisation

In the programme, the students encounter international perspectives through literature and lectures. By the use of assignments and discussions, the students are being prepared for work with educational issues in a multicultural society in an international perspective. Issues on ethnicity, interculturalism, and democracy are looked into and discussed. Courses may be replaced with courses given at a higher education institution abroad, provided that they correspond with the courses given in the programme syllabus.

Sustainable Development

In the programme, issues on sustainable development are looked into and discussed in relation to an emerging knowledge society and the individual's personal knowledge development. A comprehensive approach is applied to people's learning and socialisation based on the idea of a sustainable development where consideration is taken to individual as well as societal aspects.

Quality Development

Student influence and leverage takes place through course and programme evaluations. A course evaluation is carried out after each course, where the results are followed up on at the faculty staff meetings. Compilations of the evaluations are available at the university. Student influence also takes place through student representation in programme councils and the equivalent.

Degree

After completed studies in accordance with the objectives specified by the Higher Education Ordinance System of Qualifications and the Linnaeus University Local System of Qualifications, the student may apply for a degree. Those having completed the Pedagogical Science Master's Programme, 60 credits, can obtain the following degree:

Degree of Master of Science (60 credits) with Specialisation in General Education
Main field of study: Education

Filosofie magisterexamen med inriktning mot allmän pedagogik

Huvudområde: Pedagogik

Or

Degree of Master of Science (60 credits) with Specialisation in Didactics and Learning

Main field of study: Education

Filosofie magisterexamen med inriktning mot didaktik och lärande

Huvudområde: Pedagogik

Or

Degree of Master of Science (60 credits) with Specialisation in Teachers' Practice

Main field of study: Education

Filosofie magisterexamen med inriktning mot lärares arbete

Huvudområde: Pedagogik

Or

Degree of Master of Science (60 credits) with Specialisation in Working Life and Adult Education

Main field of study: Education

Filosofie magisterexamen med inriktning mot arbetsliv och vuxnas lärande

Huvudområde: Pedagogik

Or

Degree of Master of Science (60 credits) with Specialisation in Special Education

Main field of study: Education

Filosofie magisterexamen med inriktning mot specialpedagogik

Huvudområde: Pedagogik

Or

Degree of Master of Science (60 credits) with Specialisation in Social Pedagogy

Main field of study: Education

Filosofie magisterexamen med inriktning mot socialpedagogik

Huvudområde: Pedagogik

The degree certificate is written in Swedish and English. The degree certificate also comes with a Diploma Supplement (in English).

Other Information

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