



Programme syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences

Freds- och utvecklingsprogrammet, 180 högskolepoäng

Peace and Development Programme, 180 credits

Level

First Level

Date of Ratification

Approved 2010-12-07

Revised 2014-04-29 by the Faculty Board within the Faculty of Social Sciences

The programme syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2014

Prerequisites

General entry requirements and Civics A, English B or Civics 1b / 1a1 +1a2. If the chosen optional subject is economics, Mathematics C is also required.

Description of Programme

The Peace and Development Programme provides students with a comprehensive education that will enable them to seek employment within the area of development work, international development cooperation and peacebuilding as well as conflict and conflict resolution. The programme offers an opportunity to get a bachelor's degree in two majors, peace and development studies as well as one other subject area.

Throughout their studies, students engage in practical group work related to future work tasks and get in contact with professionals already working in their area through guest lectures and other activities. That way students acquire the knowledge and skills that enable them to compete on the labor market in international development cooperation, peacebuilding work and conflict transformation in both bilateral and multilateral organizations, governmental organizations with a development focus, IGOs and NGOs and social movements.

Objectives

Key objectives in accordance with the Higher Education Ordinance

Knowledge and understanding

For a Bachelor of Arts/Science the student shall

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

Competence and skills

For a Bachelor of Arts/Science the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to search for, gather, evaluate and critically interpret the

relevant information for a formulated problem and also discuss phenomena, issues and situations,

- critically demonstrate the ability to identify, formulate and solve problems autonomously and to complete tasks within predetermined time frames,
- demonstrate the ability to present and discuss information, problems and solutions in speech and writing and in dialogue with different audiences, and
- demonstrate the skills required to work autonomously in the main field of study.

Judgement and approach

For a Bachelor of Arts/Science 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 the need for further knowledge and ongoing learning.

Program specific objectives

After completed programme, the student shall:

- be able to place violent conflicts and wars in their historical, political and social context, as a basis for holistic-oriented peace work,
- independently be able to analyse societal and interstate conflict situations, and on this basis, conduct relevant reasoning on appropriate measures for conflict prevention and solution,
- independently be able to analyse different theories and approaches to development, as well as different types of development strategies and their impact on development from the perspective of sustainability (ecological, economic and social sustainability),
- independently be able to identify and analyse the role of development issues in various armed conflicts and from this discuss how a developmental perspective in practice can contribute to peace building,
- be able to analyse issues of conflict, peace processes and development strategies from a gender and diversity perspective,
- be able to give an overview of central theories of political development, good governance and democratic processes, and the connection between political and economical development in developing countries,
- be able to analyse political structures, processes and stakeholders in the peace and development process, at local, national, regional and global level, including the building of state and nation, the debate about the development of state, governance, democratic processes as well as horizontal and vertical accountability, and be able to comment on existing systems concerning respect for and development of human rights, on international, regional and national level,
- be able to discuss the international development cooperation's stakeholders, mechanisms and policies in order to promote democracy and political development, and how this can have impact on political aspects of peace and development processes,
- have developed an understanding of cultures other than their own, and the ability to work in intercultural contexts,
- be able to carry out work both independently and with others, and
- be able to summarize and present their work clearly, both orally and in writing.

Content

The programme is organized by the Institution of Social Studies.

Programme Overview

The Peace and Development Programme combines an interdisciplinary approach with in-depth subject-specific analysis. During the first year students are introduced to the main subjects and analytical discussions related to their major. Against that background, students choose in their second year of studies an additional area of studies that suits their particular interest and places peace and development issues into a different perspective. The combination of two approaches provides them with an integral basis of skills and knowledge to finish their studies with the G2E level in Peace and Development Studies and possible also in their additional area of studies.

Throughout the programme students are offered a series of open lectures and other activities focused on their future working life. Training in problem based learning (PBL), both individually as well as in team work, provides students with the skills necessary to master their future profession with confidence. Students identify their specific areas of interest for future work by themselves and acquire the skills necessary for their professional success. Supervisors help them in that process.

Programme Courses

The Institution of Social Studies is responsible for all courses within Sociology and Peace and Development Studies. All courses in Political Science are handled by the Institution of Political Science while the economics courses are administered by the School of Economics. The Institution for Social Work is responsible for all courses within Social Psychology.

Semester 1

This course introduces the basics of Peace and Development Studies as a discipline, its central concepts and historical development, as well as the international system's evolution over time. The course also brings students into first contact with the basic elements of our global political economy, development theories and international cooperation for development, including the role of gender and the concept of sustainable development. Furthermore, students discuss conflict, conflict resolution mechanisms and peacebuilding processes and relate them to security and development. A recurring theme is how global and local conditions are interlinked. The course is taught in English and with the participation of international students who provide an enriching cross-cultural perspective. The approach is interdisciplinary and includes group work on current issues.

Semester 2

Peace and Development Studies, 30 credits, G1F*

The second semester in Peace and Development Studies takes up the issues introduced during the first semester, but moves from the empirical and more descriptive approach towards in-depth analysis about their relationship to each other. Development economics will be explained using case studies from various developing countries. Students will also deal with conflict issues from a more theoretical perspective and explore the link between peace and development. The international development cooperation's stakeholders, mechanisms and policies to promote democracy and political development, and how this can have impact on political aspects of peace and development processes, are also discussed in the course. The semester finishes with a thesis course where students write a research paper on any of the issues they have discussed throughout their studies. The course also introduces basic methodological literature as well as the quantitative research approach.

Semesters 3-4

Studies in a second field of studies

Political Science, 60 credits, G1N

Political science is the academic study of politics which means that political scientists carry out research and teaching relating to politics and political phenomena. The subject has four sub-disciplines: political theory (ideas), Swedish and comparative politics,

administration and international politics. On the basis of the sub-disciplines, political phenomena are studied to provide knowledge about local, national and global policy in Sweden, in the EU and in the rest of the world.

Economics, 30 credits, G1N

Economics studies the use of resources in different economic units within a society at the household, business as well as public sector level as well as the effects of political and economic decision making on those levels. National economics also touches upon aspects of international economic relations, such as currency and international trade issues. Furthermore, students study unemployment, inflation, taxes, international trade, economic growth and income distribution issues.

Students who choose economics as their second major study either the G2E course in peace and development or bring in a semester of internship or study abroad.

Sociology, 60 credits, G1N

Sociology studies human experiences and societies not only as they are but also how they appear to various people. It places particular emphasis on the understanding of human actions and the cultural and social events, routines and movements which arise when human beings meet in various situations on the communal, institutional and organizational level.

Social Psychology, 60 credits, G1N

Social psychology deals with the relationship between the individual and society. It seeks to understand and explain how individuals interact and function with others, both in individual or group settings. The area focuses on how societal processes influence the individual and vice versa, particularly in terms of work and social life and within the private and public context.

In consultation with the programme coordinator, students may also choose other courses relevant to the programme's main field of study.

Semester 5

Students select from the following options:

- a) G2E-course (thesis course) in the additional field of study (economics students will have to study economics 31-60 credits during this semester)
- b) other courses relevant for the programme
- c) internship semester
- d) study abroad semester (appropriate courses chosen are chosen in consultation with the programme coordinator).
- e) G2E-kurs (thesis course) in Peace and Development Studies

Semester 6

Peace and Development Studies, 30 credits, G2E* (thesis course)

The G2E course in Peace and Development Studies deepens students' knowledge about issues related to the development-security nexus through a focus on increased understanding of structural change occurring in the existing world order. Students study how accelerated globalization has affected the political economy of the world society and how the transformation of the political landscape influences conditions for both local development and global leadership. Students also discuss social scientific methodology for both qualitative and quantitative studies within the field. In a final independent 15-credit essay, students apply the problem-oriented research approach to the current debate surrounding the research questions that are relevant and timely for international peace and development work.

Students who chose economics as their second field will take the thesis course in economics during this semester.

There is also a possibility to do an internship or studies abroad during this semester.

*= Course in the main subject

Community and Internship Contacts

Through guest lectures with professionals from the field, problem-oriented learning as well as short field trips, the programme offers students additional contact to the working world for which they are preparing. The objective is provide students with opportunities to explore the options and content for their future work as well as to create their own contact networks. Each student's personal interests guide this process.

The programme also offers opportunities to do an internship or project semester (during semester 5 or 6). Appropriate internship places or projects must be related to peace and development issues and students are themselves responsible for seeking out appropriate positions in cooperation with their programme coordinator.

Studies Abroad

Students are welcome to take advantage of the multiple exchange agreements that Linnaeus University maintains with universities around the world. They may also participate in exchange agreements between specific schools. The programme coordinator, in cooperation with the institutions responsible for international exchange, may assist them in their choice.

Scope of Programme

In Peace and Development Studies, issues such as gender, cultural tolerance, non-discrimination, and sustainable development, are a natural part of all courses, since gender, security, peaceful conflict transformation and sustainable development are interdependent. Furthermore, increasing globalisation also provides an imperative for Peace and Development Studies to engage in discussion about questions concerning migration, integration and segregation.

Peace and Development Studies' special focus on developing countries requires that our students develop empathy, understanding and tolerance for those parts of the world community which are trapped in poverty, conflict and underdevelopment. The programme provides not only the knowledge and skills needed to work with these issues but also encourages students to engage in constructive change.

Quality Development

Student evaluations are an important part of both quality assurance and continuous improvement of the programme. Students participate in the evaluation of individual courses as well as an overall programme evaluation. While the programme coordinator is responsible for the entire evaluation process, each teacher is responsible for the administration of his/her own course evaluation. Courses in the additional fields of study are evaluated according to the respective discipline's evaluation practices. Students should be informed about the results of the evaluations which are filed by the institution. A continuous dialogue between teachers and students is encouraged and students should be actively involved in the programme's development.

The programme staff keeps up to date with the development within the field as well as future work opportunities for the students in order to assure that the programme content and methodology keeps up with current requirements on the job market. We also participate regularly in applied research and field oriented work.

Degree Certificate

After completed studies in accordance with the objectives specified by the Higher Education Ordinance and the Linnaeus University Degree Ordinance, the student can apply for a degree certificate. Those having completed the Peace and Development Programme 180 credits can receive the following degree:

Bachelor of Science

(Main field of study: Peace and Development Studies)

Students studying the double major (90 credits in another subject) may obtain an additional bachelor's degree within this second field of study.

The diploma is bilingual (Swedish / English). The degree certificate comes with a Diploma Supplement (English).

Other Information

Classes are given in English and Swedish. All teaching and class work with Peace and Development Studies will be done in English, while Swedish will be used as the language of instruction in the optional other fields.