



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 2017-12-07 by the Faculty Board within the Faculty of Social Sciences

The programme syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2018

Prerequisites

General entry requirements and Civics 1b / 1a1 +1a2 or Civics A, English B (Field-specific entry requirements 6/A6). If the chosen main field of study in semester 3 is economics, Mathematics C or Mathematics 3b/3c 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 armed conflict and conflict resolution. 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 and conflict resolution in both international organisations, public institutions with a development focus, IGOs and NGOs and social movements.

Objectives

Qualitative Targets 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,

- demonstrate the ability to critically 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 orally and writing and in dialogue with different groups, 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 with regard to 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 personal need for further knowledge and to develop the individual competence.

Programme 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 on this basis discuss how a developmental perspective in practice can contribute to peacebuilding,
- 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, at 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 may have an 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.

Content

The programme is organised by the Faculty of Social Sciences.

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 studies in peace and development at level G1N and G1F, forming the foundation of the interdisciplinary, problem-oriented and emancipatory approach of the main field of study. In the second year, students choose an optional subject (main field of study) such as sociology, political science, gender studies or economics, *or* another field of study relevant to the programme. The choice of the optional subject is done in consultation with the programme coordinator. During the third year, students study peace and development at level G2E and are also given the opportunity to choose to conduct internship, studies abroad or another course relevant to the programme (at varying levels).

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. By the support of their supervisors, students come up with questions and examine how various activities function and the skills required in order to increase the possibility for them to seek employment in these areas.

Programme Courses

The order of the included courses may be altered.

*= Course within the main field of study

Semester 1

Peace and Development Studies I, 30 credits (G1N)*

In this course, the relation between peace, conflict and development is discussed, and comparison is made between various developing regions and their historical development, regional perspectives and their place in the current international system. The course also introduces development theories, international cooperation, gender issues, sustainable development, global political economy, conflict resolution mechanisms and peacebuilding processes related to security and development, from the early warning signs to peace-keeping and peacebuilding measures. The course is held in English and with the participation of international students who provide enriching cross-cultural perspectives and experiences. The approach is interdisciplinary and includes group work on current issues.

Semester 2

Peace and Development Studies II, 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 discuss the origin of violence and armed conflicts from a theoretical perspective and the strengths and weaknesses of conflict management. The international development cooperation's stakeholders, mechanisms and policies to promote democracy and political development, and how this can have an impact on political aspects of peace and development processes, are also discussed in the course. The semester finishes with a module on research methods in peace and development that focuses predominantly on quantitative methodologies.

After completing semester 1 and 2, students select their in-depth subject which may be gender studies, economics, sociology or political science, *or* another main field of study relevant to the programme.

Semester 3

Optional subjects, introductory course:

Gender Studies, 30 credits (G1N)

or

Sociology, 30 credits (G1N)

or

Political Science, 30 credits (G1N)

or

another main field of study relevant to the programme

Semester 4

Optional subjects, continuation course:

Gender Studies, 30 credits (G1F)

or

Sociology, 30 credits (G1F)

or

Political Science, 30 credits (G1F)

or

another main field of study relevant to the programme

Semester 5

Students choose one of the following options. However, Peace and Development Studies III, 30 credits (G2E, Bachelor's course) must be included in semester 5 or 6.

- a) studies in the optional subject at level G2E (Bachelor's course) (does not apply for students who have chosen economics as their main field of study)
- b) course(s) relevant to the programme
- c) internship
- d) studies abroad (suitable classes are selected in consultation with the programme coordinator)
- e) Peace and Development Studies III, 30 credits (G2E, Bachelor's course)*

Semester 6

Students choose one of the following options. However, Peace and Development Studies III, 30 credits (G2E, Bachelor's course) must be included in semester 5 or 6.

- a) course(s) relevant to the programme
- b) internship
- c) studies abroad (suitable classes are selected in consultation with the programme coordinator)
- d) Peace and Development Studies III, 30 credits (G2E, Bachelor's course)*

The G2E course in Peace and Development Studies offers a more in-depth study of the interdependent relationship between peace, development and security, applying a number of analytical frameworks. Students are also introduced to qualitative research methodologies used in peace and development studies. In a final independent 15-credit essay, students apply the problem-oriented research approach to the current debate surrounding research issues that are relevant and timely for international peace and development work.

Students who choose *economics* as their optional subject area follow the study plan given below:

Semester 3

Economics, 30 credits (G1N)

Semester 4

Qualifying studies prior to studies in economics G1F: Statistics 15 credits (G1N)

Optional course(s), 15 credits

Semester 5

Economics, 30 credits (G1F)

Semester 6

Peace and Development Studies III, 30 credits (G2E)*

The programme's optional subjects have the following content:

Gender Studies

Gender Studies is an interdisciplinary area that studies how our beliefs about sex and sexuality have been created and changed over time. Gender studies also studies how power and normality concepts are created. The main area has its scientific base in feminist research and its emphasis is on the inequalities of power between women and men in society.

Economics

Studies in Economics focus on the use of resources in different economic units within a society at the household, business and the public sector level, as well as the effects of political and economic decision making at those levels. 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.

Sociology

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 at the communal, institutional and organisational level.

Political Science

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.

Teaching is conducted in Swedish and English. English is the main language of instruction for all the courses in peace and development studies, and the other subjects may have Swedish as the main language of instruction.

Societal Relevance

The programme offers continuous contact with the future professional field through a number of guest lectures. The students' individual areas of interest serve as a guideline to a great extent and the aim is for students to gradually obtain a clear view of the kind of employers, positions and work tasks that may be of interest to them in the future, as well as establish contacts with professionals.

The programme also offers opportunities to conduct an internship or project semester (during semester 5 or 6, provided that this is appropriate in relation to the study plan described under the heading "Programme Courses"). Appropriate internship 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.

Internationalization

The Peace and Development Programme has a clear international profile, which is reflected in the course contents, course literature and the teaching environment. Teaching is conducted by a team of lecturers of different nationalities and for students of different nationalities. Students during semester 5 or 6 welcome to take advantage of the various exchange agreements that Linnaeus University maintains with universities around the world. They may also participate in the so called Minor Field Studies (SIDA scholarships applied for by the students themselves), and these studies may then be included in the degree project. Studies abroad are planned in consultation with the programme coordinator.

Programme Perspectives

Sustainable Development and Equal Terms

In Peace and Development Studies, important issues are discussed such as gender aspects in relation to development and peace/conflict, diversity, cultural as well as other kinds of identity and non-discriminatory approaches in relation to these, and sustainable development in all its forms. Continuous work is pursued within the subject concerning integrating these perspectives in the courses, where the correlations between equality, security, peaceful conflict transformation and sustainable development are emphasised. Furthermore, increasing globalization also provides an imperative for Peace and Development Studies to engage in discussion on issues concerning migration, integration and segregation.

The international profile of the Peace and Development Studies' with a 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 required to work with these issues but also encourages students to engage in constructive change.

Broadened knowledge perspective

Peace and Development Studies is an interdisciplinary main field of study which gives the students a broadened perspective within other knowledge areas such as international law, international political economy and international politics. Furthermore, the historical development within various parts of the world is analysed, and students discuss normative and ethical principles of the global community and the societies in which we live and work.

Entrepreneurial Approach

The aim of the programme is for students to become proactive and creative citizens, who by the use of a problem-based mindset and case studies analyse their surroundings and find solutions and alternatives to present problems and social conflicts. This method used to find alternatives to existing structures is also implemented as practical suggestions on how one may contribute with new work tasks in the current as well as in the future labour market. Activities are arranged every year, where previous students meet the present students in order to present alternative job opportunities which these alumni have established within the scope of the current labour market.

Quality Development

The board of the Faculty of Social Sciences holds the overall responsibility for the quality of the education and the systematic quality assurance in terms of follow-up of the programme as a whole and the progression of the studies, and shall develop the relevance to people representing outside interests and the relation to current research. The Peace and Development Programme assures student participation and leverage through systematic implementation of written evaluations of each course and the programme, and through student representation in the faculty board, working committee and programme council (or the equivalent). The students' views are used as a basis for the board's quality assurance. Compilations of various evaluations are accessible through the university.

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

Other Information

The programme offers the possibility to apply for the award of a Degree of Bachelor in two main fields of study, namely Peace and Development Studies and one other main field (optional subject). When choosing this alternative, the possibilities for internship and studies abroad are affected, unless these can be completed and credited as studies within one of the chosen main fields of study. Students who wish to choose this alternative shall contact the programme coordinator and the student counsellor to plan their study route.