

## Education plan

for

**Translation Studies, Master's Program, Specialization in Conference Interpreting** 120.0 Higher Education Credits  
**Masterprogram i översättningsvetenskap, inriktning konferenstolkning** 120.0 ECTS credits

**Programme code:** HÖVTO  
**Valid from:** Autumn 2010  
**Date of approval:** 2009-10-13  
**Department:** The Department of Swedish Language and Multilingualism

### Decision

This program syllabus was adopted by the board of the Faculty of Humanities on 13 October 2009.

### Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Bachelor's degree with a Major in one of the languages, included in the programme alternatively in translation or interpreting. Very good knowledge of and proficiency in three languages, including your mother tongue/first language. One of these languages must be Swedish, another English or French. A passing grade in an entrance test, designed to assess proficiency in the three languages and the applicant's aptitude for interpreting. The decision as to which languages are to be included in the programme is made by the Institute for Interpretation and Translation Studies before the start of each programme.

### Programme structure

The first year of the program consists of compulsory courses of 60 higher education credits (hec), which are allocated as follows: Basic interpreting skills, 30 hec (Conference interpreting I and Conference interpreting II, 15 hec each), Translation studies: Theory and Research Methods I, 15 hec, and Independent research essay I/ Thesis I, 15 hec.

For the second year, the following specializations are available:

- a) Advanced interpreting skills, 30 hec (Conference interpreting III and Conference interpreting IV, 15 hec each), provided that the student has obtained a passing grade in the diagnostic tests, that are conducted at the end of the Conference interpreting II course, which examine the prospects for attaining the skills that are required of a professional conference interpreter.
- b) Options with relevance for translation studies specializing in conference interpreting, for a total of 30 hec.

In addition, during the second year of the program, all students study compulsory courses in Academic English, 7.5 hec, Scientific Methods and Research Ethics, 7.5 hec and write an Independent research essay part II/Master's thesis, 15 hec.

In the program, practical and theoretical components alternate. In the Conference interpreting I and II courses, the students learn the foundations of consecutive and simultaneous interpreting and note taking techniques. In the Conference interpreting III and IV courses, these skills are further developed. In the Conference interpreting I-IV courses, lectures are also given on the ways of operating and the political areas of the EU. By taking the Conference interpreting I-IV courses, the students will obtain the essential skills for becoming

professional conference interpreters. Students learn meeting techniques and gain insight in how to prepare themselves for the job at hand as well as how to attain relevant information. An important part of the interpreting skill courses is the continuous feedback that the students will receive from teachers and other students, regarding the development of their interpreting skills. A diagnostic test must be passed at the end of the first year in order for the students to proceed to the modules in advanced interpreting skills.

The theoretical part of the programme includes courses in the Theory of Translation, Academic English and Scientific Methods and Research Ethics. For the independent research essays the students can choose to make a scholarly analysis of their own or another person's interpretation, or write an entirely theoretical essay. The education comprises of lectures, lessons, seminars, group exercises and individual exercises, including distance learning using technological resources, and even study visits.

The form and extent of the education can be adapted to both the number of students on the programme and the financial situation of the Institute.

## **Goals**

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Master, students must

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the discipline of translation studies, specialization conference interpreting, including both a broad command of the field and deeper knowledge of certain parts of the field, together with insight into current research and development work,
- demonstrate deeper methodological knowledge in the main field of the education.

Skills and abilities

For a Degree of Master, 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, to plan and, using appropriate methods, carry out advanced tasks within specified time limits, and thereby 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,
- demonstrate the skill required to participate in research and development work or to work independently on other advanced activities.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Master, students must

- demonstrate the 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,
- demonstrate an ability to identify their need for further knowledge and to take responsibility for developing their knowledge.

## **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES FOR THE PROGRAM**

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Master, students must

- demonstrate a broad general education and insight into different areas of society (such as the law, the economy and the environment) which are relevant for professionally active interpreters.
- demonstrate a deepened ability to analyse texts and statements with regards to language situation, function and style.

Skills and abilities

For a Degree of Master, students must

- demonstrate the proficiency required to work in conference interpreting as a profession, fulfilling professional demands for quality (after completing the Conference interpreting I-IV courses)
- demonstrate the ability to search for, obtain and effectively use relevant information at the level that is required of a professionally active conference interpreter
- demonstrate proficiency in the provision of an adequate terminology in different areas of special-purpose communication.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Master, students must

- demonstrate insight into and respect for the ethical demands that are placed on a professional conference interpreter.

## **Courses**

Conference interpreting I, 15 hec (compulsory)

Conference interpreting II, 15 hec (compulsory)

Translation studies: Theory and Research Methods I, 15 hec (compulsory)  
Translation studies, Independent research essay I, 15 hec (compulsory)  
Conference interpreting III, 15 hec (option)  
Conference interpreting IV, 15 hec (option)  
Academic English, 7.5 hec (compulsory)  
Scientific method and research ethics, 7.5 hec (compulsory)  
Translation studies, Independent research essay II for a Master's degree, 15 hec (compulsory)  
Optional courses 30 hec in total.

### **Degree**

The program leads to a degree of Master of Arts (Two Years) with a Major in Translation studies. It is possible to take a degree of Master of Arts (One Year) after the first completed year.

### **Misc**

Regulations for transition.

Please consult the syllabuses for the modules.

Restrictions:

The degree cannot include courses whose content wholly or partly overlap with the compulsory courses of the program.

Of the options, first level courses may comprise a maximum of 30 hec.

Students must consult with the Institute for Interpretation and Translation Studies before selecting their options.

A student who has enrolled in the program is expected to follow it. Those who are compelled to take a period of absence must apply for an approved leave from their studies. The Institute for Interpretation and Translation Studies cannot guarantee that language-specific teaching in a particular language combination can be offered after a leave of absence.