

Education plan

for

Master's Programme in Demography
Magisterprogram i demografi

60.0 Higher Education
Credits
60.0 ECTS credits

Programme code: SDEMO
Valid from: Autumn 2012
Date of approval: 2011-11-09
Department: Department of Sociology

Decision

This syllabus is approved by the Social Science Faculty Board as of November 9 2011.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Bachelor's degree in Economic History, Economics, Human Geography, Sociology, Statistics or the equivalent; English B/English 6 or the equivalent.

Programme structure

The one-year master's programme in Demography has a multidisciplinary character and can as such contain courses from other disciplines. The structure is a course part of altogether 45 ECTS credits and a thesis of 15 ECTS credits.

The programme starts with three compulsory courses in Demography, containing both demographic methods and demographic theory. The remaining 22.5 ECTS credits are elective but 7.5 of these need to have a demographic component. The programme is completed by writing a one-year master's thesis. The supervisor for the thesis should have demographic competence but a co-supervisor may be from any of the other disciplines participating in the programme.

The language of instruction for the courses mentioned by name is English. Other courses may be in Swedish or in English.

Goals

The aim of the programme is to prepare students for working with qualified demographic surveys. Students will learn to describe and analyse population development in various social contexts and time periods. They will be able to understand and investigate causes and consequences of changing population structures. Such knowledge is essential for social planning and for understanding how a society functions. The programme prepares students both for doctoral study and for an applied research career as investigator in government agencies, municipalities, other organizations, insurance companies and other businesses.

Upon the completion of the programme the student is expected to be able to:

In terms of knowledge and understanding:

- Demonstrate deeper knowledge and understanding of Demography, including a general view of the field as well as insight into current research
- Link theoretical knowledge and demographic analysing techniques to illustrate the research question in a study
- Interpret and explain demographic data, including qualitative and quantitative research results and discuss their validity

In terms of accomplishments and competence:

- Plan and carry through a supervised scientific study of demographic relevance
- Independently identify and form relevant demographic research questions and hypotheses
- Write and present scientific texts in demography or with demographic content
- Write and present reports on demographically relevant questions that can be understood by persons without special knowledge in the area
- Work independently and in groups
- Demonstrate competence to participate in research and development work or to work with other qualified activities

In terms of attitudes and values:

- Identify and deal with ethical questions in demographic research
- Demonstrate ability to within the demographic field make assessments with regard to relevant scientific, societal and ethical aspects
- Search for, compare and critically review demographic data and literature relevant for a particular research question
- Compare and evaluate basic methods used in research on demographic questions
- Comment on scientific texts and presentations with demographic content
- Show understanding of the possibilities and limitations of science, its role in society and man's responsibility for how it is implemented
- Show ability to identify own needs of further knowledge and to take responsibility for own improvement

Courses

The following courses are to be taken in the programme:

Demography courses

Population development and social change 7.5 ECTS credits

Basic demographic methods 7.5 ECTS credits

Population processes 7.5 ECTS credits

Other courses

Elective course with demographic component from any of the participating departments 7.5 ECTS credits

Elective course from any of the participating departments 7.5 ECTS credits

Master's Thesis in Demography 15 ECTS credits

Degree

The completion of the programme leads to a one-year master's degree in Demography.

Misc

Students who have been admitted to the programme but who have failed to complete it within the stipulated year may request to complete the programme even after the study programme has ceased to exist. In doing this, limitations are set by the syllabi of the programme courses.

The programme is hosted by the Department of Sociology. Other participating Stockholm University departments are (in alphabetical order): Economic History, Economics, Human Geography and Statistics.