

Education plan

for

Master's Programme in Political Science with specialisation in Public Policy and Organisations 120.0 Higher Education Credits
Masterprogram i statsvetenskap med inriktning mot offentlig politik och organisation 120.0 ECTS credits

Programme code: SVOPO
Valid from: Autumn 2014
Date of approval: 2012-10-19
Changed: 2014-04-08
Department: Department of Political Science

Decision

This education plan was established by the Institution of Social Sciences Faculty Board 2012-10-19. Date of latest revision 2014-04-08.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Swedish upper secondary school courses Swedish B and English B. Academic degree consisting of a minimum of 180 credits with a minimum of 90 credits in Political Science, or equivalent.

Programme structure

The programme provides both breadth and depth and consists of compulsory courses that are read jointly. The programme places particular emphasis on broad vocational courses with the aim of increasing the students' employability. Employability is further enhanced through a compulsory vocational internship with public authorities, companies or organisations worth 22.5 credits. All courses are at an advanced level.

Goals

In addition to the general goals stated in the first chapter and 9th paragraph of the Higher Education Act, the Higher Education Ordinance Goals stated below also apply:

Knowledge and Understanding

To obtain a master's degree students shall:

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding in political science, including broad knowledge within the field and substantially deeper knowledge of certain parts of that field, in addition to deeper insight into current research and developmental work;
- Demonstrate advanced methodological knowledge of political science.

Proficiency and Abilities

For a master's degree students shall:

- Demonstrate the ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations, even with limited information;
- Demonstrate the ability to critically, independently and creatively identify and formulate issues, as well as plan and carry out advanced tasks by using appropriate methods within specified time limits, thereby contributing to the development of knowledge and evaluating this work;
- Demonstrate the ability in national and international contexts, orally and in writing, to clearly present and discuss their conclusions and the knowledge and arguments behind them, in dialogue with different groups;

- Demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development, or for independent work in other qualified tasks.

Assessment ability and approach

For a master's degree students shall:

- Demonstrate the ability to perform assessments in political science by considering relevant scientific, societal and ethical aspects, along with demonstrating awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work;

- Demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of science, its role in society and human responsibility for how it is used;

- Demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge and take responsibility for personal knowledge development.

In addition to these course goals the following goals also apply for this programme:

- Demonstrate deepened insight into key issues in the field of public administration including: first, knowledge regarding public administration's historical development, organisation, bureaucratic power, management and control; second, current debates regarding public administration's role, form and assignments, from both a Swedish and comparative perspective.

Courses

All courses in the programme are compulsory and are taught at an advanced level:

Semester 1:

Public administration and administration politics, 7.5 credits

Comparative administration and administration politics, 7.5 credits

Public organisations and their environment, 7.5 credits

The EU as a political system, 7.5 credits

Semester 2:

Institutions and governance, 7.5 credits

Public procurement 7.5 credits, or equivalent course per register from the institution

Evaluation in practice, 7.5 credits

Optional method course per register from the institution, 7.5 credits

Semester 3:

Organisation analysis, 7.5 credits

Vocational internship in political science, 22.5 credits

Semester 4:

Master's Thesis in political science, 30 credits

Degree

The programme leads to a Master's degree in Political Science. The main subject area is Political Science with a specialisation in Public Policy and Organisations.

Misc

When the education plan is rescinded, the student has the right to complete the education according to the present curriculum during a settlement period comprising the programme's nominal duration plus two years. During this period the limitations stated in the syllabuses apply regarding the courses included in the education. If necessary, equivalent education is offered.

Advancement regulations within the programme: In order for students to register for the course Vocational Internship, semesters 1 and 2 must be completed.

For a master's degree the students shall, within the frame of the course requirements, have completed an independent research project (dissertation) in Political Science, comprised of a minimum of 30 credits.

Language of instruction is English and Swedish.