

# Education plan

for

**Master's Programme in Asian Studies**  
**Masterprogram i Asienstudier**

**120.0 Higher Education**  
**Credits**  
**120.0 ECTS credits**

<b>Programme code:</b>	HMASO
<b>Valid from:</b>	Autumn 2019
<b>Date of approval:</b>	2015-03-03
<b>Changed:</b>	2018-11-07
<b>Department:</b>	Department of Asian and Middle Eastern studies

## Decision

This syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Humanities, 2015-03-03 and revised 2018-11-07.

## Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Bachelor's degree (including a thesis of at least 15 credits in either Chinese, Japanese or Korean) in Asia: Languages and Cultures, or the equivalent thereof, as well as English B/English 6.

## Programme structure

The Master's programme in Asian Studies is an interdisciplinary program that provides advanced knowledge about the Asian languages and cultures with its main focus on Japan, China and Korea. The programme also provides in-depth training in one of the major East Asian languages, Japanese, Chinese and Korean.

The focus of the programme is developing the student's ability to interdisciplinary analysis of East Asia as a whole, and Japan, China and Korea specifically. Advanced knowledge in one of the three languages is considered central for achieving this goal. By combining an interdisciplinary approach with country specific knowledge, the student is given the opportunity to focus on issues central for the region and contextualize East Asia on a global level.

Within the programme there is room for internship, field work or studies abroad, by choosing to attend the third semester elective courses at another university, for example in Japan, China or Korea.

The programme consists of four semester of full time studies of which 75 credits are compulsory. The second semester consists of 15 credits of elective courses and the third semester consists of 30 credits of elective courses that may be attended at Stockholm University or another university, studies abroad or internship.

During the last semester students write their Master's Thesis that comprise of 30 credits. The thesis is written in English with sources in Japanese, Chinese or Korean. In total, at least 60 credits are studied in Asian Languages and Cultures.

The programme prepares the students for work in the industry, government, international organizations, research and development, media and journalism, in positions which require advanced knowledge about and analysis of issues related to East Asia, as well as advanced knowledge in one of the major East Asian languages. The programme also provides eligibility to third level education.

The language of instruction is English.

## Goals

Master's degree

Knowledge and understanding

The student should:

- demonstrate proficiency and understanding within the main area of the education, including a broad level of proficiency within the discipline as well as extensive in-depth proficiency within certain parts of the discipline, and in-depth insight concerning current research and development work, and
- demonstrate in-depth proficiency concerning methods within the main discipline of the education.

Proficiency and ability

The student should:

- demonstrate an ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and to analyze, assess and handle complex courses of events, questions and situations, also with a limited amount of information,
- demonstrate an ability to critically, independently and creatively identify and formulate questions, to plan and with adequate methods carry out qualified assignments within a given time-frame and thereby contribute to the development of knowledge, as well as to evaluate this work,
- demonstrate an ability to, in national as well as international contexts, orally and in writing account for and discuss his/her conclusions as well as the knowledge and arguments behind these in dialogue with various groups, and
- demonstrate such an ability that is required in order to partake in research and development work or to independently work in another qualified area.

Evaluatory ability and approach

The student should:

- demonstrate an ability to, within the main area of studies, pass judgements in accordance with relevant academic, social and ethical aspects, as well as to demonstrate an awareness of the ethical aspects of research and development work,
- demonstrate an insight into the possibilities and limits of science, its role in society and the responsibility of people concerning how to make use of it,
- demonstrate an ability to identify his/her need to further deepen his/her knowledge and to take responsibility for his/her own academic development.

## Courses

Studies and compulsory courses

First semester

Cultural Flows and Political Relations in East Asia, 7.5 credits (main area Asian Languages and Cultures)

Issues and Approaches in East Asian Studies, 7.5 credits (main area Asian Languages and Cultures)

Scientific Methods and Research Ethics, 7.5 credits (main area Philosophy)

For Japanese:

Advanced Japanese I, 7.5 credits (main area Asian Languages and Cultures)

For Chinese:

Advanced Chinese I, 7.5 credits (main area Asian Languages and Cultures)

For Korean:

Advanced Korean I, 7.5 credits (main area Asian Languages and Cultures)

Second semester

English for Academic Research, 7.5 credits (main area English)

For Japanese:

Advanced Japanese II, 7.5 credits (main area Asian Languages and Cultures)

For Chinese:

Advanced Chinese II, 7.5 credits (main area Asian Languages and Cultures)

For Korean:

Advanced Korean II, 7.5 credits (main area Asian Languages and Cultures)

Optional courses comprising of 15 credits. Election of courses is done together with the Director of Studies.

#### Third semester

Elective courses of in total 30 credits. These can be substituted by internship, studies abroad or field work. Election of courses is done together with the Director of Studies.

#### Fourth semester

Asian Studies - Master's Course, 30 credits (main area Asian Languages and Cultures).  
The degree project (Master's thesis) is written within the respective languages: Japanese, Chinese or Korean.

For special eligibility requirements, see the respective syllabus. The elective courses available are announced at [www.hum.su.se/kursutbud](http://www.hum.su.se/kursutbud) at the latest September 15:th and March 15:th.

A maximum of 30 credits of first cycle courses is allowed.

#### **Degree**

The program results in a Master of Arts degree (120 credits) in Asia:s Languages and Cultures.

#### **Misc**

Interim regulation: When the program is no longer given and its educational plan is abrogated, the student has the right to finish his/her education according to this syllabus, though at the latest after the program's nominal running time plus two years. Therewith the limitations in the syllabuses of the respective courses which are part of the education program apply. Alternatively, an equivalent education is offered.