

Education plan

for

Master's Programme in International Relations
Masterprogram i internationella relationer

120.0 Higher Education
Credits
120.0 ECTS credits

Programme code: SAIRO
Valid from: Autumn 2023
Date of approval: 2022-06-08
Department: Department of Economic History and International Relations

Decision

The education plan was decided by the Faculty Board of Social Sciences.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Undergraduate degree with at least 180 ECTS credits with at least 90 ECTS credits in International Relations, Global Development or equivalent topics such as Economic History, History, Human Geography, Economics, Business Administration, Anthropology, Sociology or Political Science including a thesis or other independent project of at least 15 ECTS credits. Swedish upper secondary school course English B/6 or equivalent.

Programme structure

The Master's Programme in international relations at Stockholm University aims to introduce and provide in-depth knowledge of the subject of IR as well as the main debates and theoretical starting points used in the field of research. Within the programme, students are given the opportunity to critically discuss and analyze issues related to how states, organizations (governmental and non-governmental) and others act in the international system and its consequences nationally, regionally, globally and locally. Central questions for students are: How do conflicts arise and how can they be resolved, how is power and resources distributed and what significance do norms, institutions and national identities have for international cooperation? Central themes are international security, international institutions and international political economy.

The master's programme prepares students for a future academic career and professional activities with qualified positions in private and public activities, in various interest organizations and international organizations. The programme develops students' ability for independent and critical assessment, ability to independently solve problems and ability to follow the development of knowledge at the research front. The programme provides both breadth and depth within the scientific study of international relations, and develops the student's analytical ability and methodological skills. The programme consists of both compulsory and optional courses (electives).

All teaching is held in English.

The master's programme gives eligibility for doctoral studies in International Relations.

Goals

Apart from the general goals stated in chapter 1, paragraph 9 of the Higher Education Act, the following goals apply in accordance with the Higher Education ordinance:

Knowledge and understanding

After having completed the Master's programme, the student is expected to be able to:

- knowledge and understanding in the main area of study, including both broad knowledge in the field, significant in-depth knowledge in certain parts of the area as well as in-depth insight into current research and development work,
- in-depth methodological knowledge in the main area of study

Competence and skills

After having completed the Master's programme, the student is expected to be able to:

- show the ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and to analyze, assess and handle complex phenomena, issues and situations even with limited information,
- demonstrate the ability to critically, independently and creatively identify and formulate issues, to plan and with appropriate methods carry out qualified assignments within given time frames and thereby contribute to the development of knowledge and to evaluate the work,
- demonstrate the ability to clearly present and discuss their conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different groups, both orally and internationally, and
- demonstrate the skills required to participate in research- and development work or to work independently in other qualified activities.

Judgement and approach

After having completed the Master's programme, the student is expected to be able to:

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments within the main area of study with regard to relevant scientific, social and ethical aspects and show awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work,
- show insight into the possibilities and limitations of science, its role in society and people's responsibility for how it is used, and
- show the ability to identify their need for additional knowledge and to take responsibility for their knowledge development.

Courses

Structure of the programme and the compulsory courses

Term 1:

- Introduction to International Relations (15 ECTS credits), Graduate level, International Relations.
- Quantitative Methods (7.5 ECTS credits), Graduate level, International Relations.
- Qualitative Methods (7.5 ECTS credits), Graduate level, International Relations.

Term 2:

- Elective courses (30 ECTS credits), Graduate level, Including the possibility to do internship (of 15 or 30 ECTS credits) or study abroad.

Term 3:

- Elective courses (15 ECTS credits) Graduate level, Including the possibility to do internship. Followed by two compulsory courses:
- Research Design (7.5 ECTS credits) Graduate level, International Relations.
- Advanced Qualitative Methods (7.5 ECTS credits) OR Advanced Quantitative Methods (7.5 ECTS credits), Graduate level, International Relations.

Term 4:

- Compulsory Master Thesis in International Relations (30 ECTS credits) Graduate level.

The elective courses are given in International Relations. Elective courses are chosen in consultation with the director of studies. It is compulsory to take at least one course with a strong focus on International Relations (such as International Relations in East Asia (15 ECTS Credits) Graduate level or Energi and Security (15 ECTS credits) Graduate level).

The range of elective courses at the department is announced at <http://www.ekohist.su.se> no later than 15 September before the spring term and 15 March before the autumn term.

Degree

The programme leads to a Master of Science degree (filosofie mastersexamen) in International Relations.

Misc

When this Master's programme is discontinued and its programme plan is canceled, students have the right to complete the education according to the current educational plan, according to the termination period decided by the faculty board. Usually this is at least the nominal duration of the programme plus two years. In doing so, the restrictions specified in the syllabuses primarily apply to the courses included in the education, or are

offered equivalent training.