

Education plan

for

Master's Programme in Child Language Acquisition
Masterprogram i barns språkutveckling

120.0 Higher Education
Credits
120.0 ECTS credits

Programme code: HLBSB
Valid from: Spring 2023
Date of approval: 2022-11-08
Department: Department of Linguistics

Decision

This education plan has been adopted by the Board of the Faculty of Humanities.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

The study route Child Language Acquisition for Linguists requires a degree of 180 ECTS credits, including a degree project in linguistics or another language science main area of study, *or* a degree in speech pathology. English 6 or equivalent, Swedish 3 or equivalent.

The study route Child Language Acquisition for Teachers and Social Scientists requires a degree of 180 ECTS credits in psychology, cognitive science or equivalent, including a degree project with a linguistic focus, *or* a Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Pre-School Education, including a degree project with a linguistic focus, or a Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Education with a major in a linguistic discipline, with a degree project on a language either as part of the degree or independently. English 6 or equivalent, Swedish 3 or equivalent.

Programme structure

In the Master's Programme in Child Language Acquisition, students deepen their linguistic knowledge in the field of language development in general and children's language development in particular, as well as in a variety of methodological approaches in the area of child language development. Importance is given to the students developing their scientific approach and their ability to perform independent analyses, and practicing communicating their work both orally and in writing. Such practical training consists of small project assignments and seminar presentations. The programme provides in-depth knowledge and skills in the area of child language acquisition, and programme graduates are eligible to apply for a PhD position in linguistics. The programme may also serve as further specialisation in a field of study where child language development is a relevant area, or as a basis for future career related to child language acquisition.

There are two study routes within the programme: Child Language Acquisition for Linguists and Child Language Acquisition for Teachers and Social Scientists. The study route Child Language Acquisition for Linguists is aimed at students of language science with a degree of 180 credits in language science or equivalent. The study route Child Language Acquisition for Teachers and Social Scientists is aimed at students holding a different degree with linguistic components.

Structure of the study route Child Language Acquisition for Linguists

This study route comprises four semesters of full time study (120 credits) and consists of mandatory courses (45 credits), elective courses (22.5 credits) and optional courses (22.5 credits), as well as a Master's degree

project (30 credits). Typically, each semester has four course units of 7.5 credits, where two units run parallel for the first half of the semester, and the other two during the second half. Exceptions may be made for optional courses taken at a different department, faculty or higher education institution.

15 of the 22.5 elective course credits are to be taken within the programme main field of education and 7.5 either within the main field Linguistics or within Sign Language. Optional courses make up 22.5 credits. Elective and optional courses are to be selected in consultation with the programme coordinator to ensure that they are of relevance to the degree. The degree project for a Degree of Master of Arts (120 credits) amounts to a full semester (30 credits).

Structure of the study route Child Language Acquisition for Teachers and Social Scientists

This study route comprises four semesters of full time study (120 credits) and consists of mandatory courses (52.5 credits), elective courses (15 credits) and optional courses (22.5 credits), as well as a Master's degree project (30 credits). Typically, each semester has four course units of 7.5 credits, where two units run parallel for the first half of the semester, and the other two during the second half. Exceptions may be made for optional courses taken at a different department, faculty or higher education institution.

The 15 elective course credits are to be taken within the programme main field of education. Optional courses make up 22.5 credits. Elective and optional courses are to be selected in consultation with the programme coordinator to ensure that they are of relevance to the degree. The degree project for a Degree of Master of Arts (120 credits) amounts to a full semester (30 credits).

It is possible to include exchange studies abroad in the programme.

The programme offers the possibility of graduating with a Degree of Master of Arts (60 credits) after two semesters.

The language of tuition varies between English and Swedish. Courses may be given on campus or partially or entirely online. Please refer to the course catalogue for details regarding the two study routes and the individual courses within each.

Goals

Degree of Master of Arts (60 credits)

Knowledge and Understanding

Having completed the programme, students will be able to

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including both wide-ranging knowledge of the field and specialised knowledge in particular areas of the field, as well as in-depth familiarity with current research and development work
- demonstrate extensive knowledge of methodology in the main field of study.

Skills and Ability

Having completed the programme, students will be able to

- demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge, and to analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, research questions and situations, even with limited information
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate research questions independently, as well as to plan and carry out advanced tasks within a given timeframe, using appropriate methods
- demonstrate the ability to give a clear presentation of conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based, both in speech and in writing, in dialogue with different audiences
- demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development work or employment in other qualified capacities

Evaluation ability and Approach

Having completed the programme, students will be able to

- demonstrate the ability to make informed assessments in the main field of study, guided by relevant scientific, social and ethical considerations, and to demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used
- demonstrate an ability to recognise their own need to expand their knowledge and to take charge of their continued learning process.

Degree of Master of Arts (120 credits)

Knowledge and Understanding

Having completed the programme, students will be able to

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including both wide-ranging knowledge of the field and considerable expertise in particular areas of the field, as well as considerable in-depth familiarity with current research and development work
- demonstrate extensive knowledge of methodology in the main field of study.

Skills and Ability

Having completed the programme, students will be able to

- demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge critically and systematically, and to analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, research questions and situations, even with limited information
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate research questions critically, creatively and independently, as well as to plan and carry out advanced tasks within a given timeframe using appropriate methods, thereby contributing to the advance of knowledge, and to evaluate the work
- demonstrate the ability to give a clear presentation of conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based, both in speech and in writing, in dialogue with different audiences both nationally and internationally
- demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development work or unsupervised employment in other qualified capacities

Evaluation ability and Approach

Having completed the programme, students will be able to

- demonstrate the ability to make informed assessments in the main field of study, guided by relevant scientific, social and ethical considerations, and to demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used
- demonstrate an ability to recognise their own need to expand their knowledge and to take charge of their continued learning process.

Courses

Study routes and mandatory courses

Child Language Acquisition for Linguists

1st semester

Language in Use, 7.5 credits (main field: Linguistics)

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

Language Evolution and Child Language Acquisition, 7.5 credits (main field: Linguistics)

Statistics for Linguists, 7.5 credits (main field: Linguistics)

2nd semester

Methodology for Studies in Child Language Acquisition, 7.5 credits (main field: Linguistics)

Elective courses amounting to 15 credits (main field: Linguistics)

Optional courses amounting to 7.5 credits

Alternatively, the 15 credits in elective courses may be taken in the 3rd semester; in which case optional courses amounting to 22.5 credits will be taken in the 2nd semester. For a Master's degree (60 credits), the elective course credits will consist of Child Language Acquisition – Master's (60 credits) course, 15 credits (main field: Linguistics).

3rd semester

English for Academic Research, 7.5 credits (main field: English)

Elective course amounting to 7.5 credits (main field: Linguistics or main field: Sign Language)

Optional courses amounting to 15 credits

If optional courses were taken in the 2nd semester, elective courses amounting to 15 credits will be taken in the 3rd semester.

4th semester

Child Language Acquisition – Master's (120 credits) course, 30 credits (main field: Linguistics).

Child Language Acquisition for Teachers and Social Scientists

1st semester

Introduction to Linguistics, 12 credits (main field: Linguistics)

Elementary data processing for linguists, 3 credits (main field: Linguistics)

Scientific Methods and Research Ethics, 7.5 credits (main field: Philosophy)
Language Evolution and Child Language Acquisition, 7.5 credits (main field: Linguistics)

2nd semester

Methodology for Studies in Child Language Acquisition, 7.5 credits (main field: Linguistics)
Elective courses amounting to 15 credits (main field: Linguistics)
Optional courses amounting to 7.5 credits

Alternatively, the 15 credits in elective courses may be taken in the 3rd semester, in which case optional courses amounting to 22.5 credits will be taken in the 2nd semester. For a Master's degree (60 credits), the elective course credits will consist of Child Language Acquisition – Master's (60 credits) course, 15 credits (main field: Linguistics).

3rd semester

English for Academic Research, 7.5 credits (main field: English)
Statistics for Linguists, 7.5 credits (main field: Linguistics)
Optional courses amounting to 15 credits

If optional courses were taken in the 2nd semester, elective courses amounting to 15 credits will be taken in the 3rd semester.

4th semester

Child Language Acquisition – Master's (120 credits) course, 30 credits (main field: Linguistics).

Elective and optional courses are to be selected in consultation with the programme coordinator. Inclusion of first-cycle courses in the degree is limited to a maximum of 15 credits in a Degree of Master of Arts (60 credits) and to 30 credits in a Degree of Master of Arts (120 credits).

The course English for Academic Research, 7.5 credits (main field: English) may, after consultation with the programme coordinator, be taken in a different semester and be replaced with an elective or optional course of 7.5 credits.

For details of entry requirements for specific courses within the Master's programme, please refer to the syllabus of each course.

Degree

The programme leads to a Degree of Master of Arts (120 credits) in the main field of study Linguistics, with the possibility of an intermediate exit point in the form of a Degree of Master of Arts (60 credits) in the main field of study Linguistics.

Misc

The study route Child Language Acquisition for Linguists corresponds to the study route in HLBSA Master's Programme in Child Language Acquisition, 120 credits.

Transitional regulations:

When the present programme education plan is withdrawn, students have a right to complete their education in accordance with it during a transitional period corresponding to the two-year duration of the programme plus another two years. During this period, the limitations stated in the syllabus of each individual course within the programme primarily applies; secondarily, equivalent courses will be offered.