



Faculty of Social Sciences

SAWEM, Master of Science Programme in Welfare Policies and Management, 120 credits

*Masterprogram i välfärdsolitik och management, 120
högskolepoäng*

Second cycle degree programme requiring previous university study / *Program
med akademiska förkunskapskrav och med slutlig examen på avancerad nivå*

Decision

This programme syllabus was approved by the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences on 27 November 2008 and most recently by the Pro Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences on 9 October 2018 (U 2018/581). The amended syllabus is valid from 9 October 2018, autumn semester 2019.

Programme description

The Master of Science Programme in Welfare Policies and Management runs for four consecutive terms.

The programme is centred on key issues in the development, policy-making, management and reform of welfare states/regimes. It is based on a comparative approach and highlights differences and similarities across countries, administrative levels and policy areas, including a specific European Union perspective.

The programme prepares for advanced analytical and managerial work within public or private organizations involved in the production of welfare services. A degree from the programme also prepares for PhD studies and an academic career.

Goals

Pursuant to the Higher Education Ordinance, for a degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall:

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the chosen field of study, including both broad knowledge of the field and a considerable degree of specialised knowledge in certain areas of the field as well as insight into current research and development work, and
- demonstrate specialised methodological knowledge in the chosen field of study.

Competence and skills

For a Degree of Master (120 credits) the student 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 identify and formulate issues critically, autonomously and creatively as well as to plan and, using appropriate methods, undertake advanced tasks within predetermined time frames and so contribute to the formation of knowledge as well as the ability to evaluate this work
- demonstrate the ability in speech and writing both nationally and internationally to clearly report and discuss his or her conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences, and
- demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development work or autonomous employment in some other qualified capacity.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the chosen field of study informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues and also 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, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

In addition to the outcomes stated in the Higher Education Ordinance, for a degree of Master of Science (120 credits) in Welfare Policies and Management the student shall:

- demonstrate an understanding of perspectives on welfare policies and management based on disciplines other than their own,
- demonstrate knowledge of issues concerning welfare policies and management: specifically dilemmas related to democratic governance, leadership, efficiency and ethics, and
- demonstrate knowledge about scientific channels of communication and be able to monitor the academic development within their field of study.

Course information

The programme starts with an introductory course in which different social science perspectives and theories on welfare states/regimes – emphasising regionalisation, globalisation and institutional changes – are covered. The comparative approach gives insights into the different ways welfare states have organized their policies. The course presents major cultural, economic, political and socio-psychological theories and concepts to enable the student to make informed, comparative analyses of how

globalisation is connected to the management of welfare. This is followed by a course on the principles of organization, and theories of leadership, in the production of welfare services. The term ends with a course on theories and methods of evaluation.

The second term starts with a mandatory course in Economics. The core of the course is a relatively non-technical synthesis of the conception of the public sector within economics, emphasizing the elementary analysis of taxation, spending and decision-making. Applications will include the basic structure and recent reforms of social insurance systems and pension systems. During the second part of the term, the student has the possibility of doing an internship relevant to the programme, or taking an elective course, in any academic discipline, at Lund University or at another recognized higher education institution.

During the second year a specialisation takes place. The student first takes a mandatory course in his or her major discipline, offered by the Department of Political Science, the Department of Sociology and the School of Social Work respectively. The student then takes a course in advanced research methods, both qualitative and quantitative. The aim of the course is to give a comprehensive understanding of the diverse research methods used in the social sciences, and prepare the student for the upcoming thesis work during the last term of the programme. During the fourth term the student complete the programme by writing a Master's (Two Years) thesis, which provides the student with the opportunity to demonstrate his or her understanding of scientific methodology.

Additional information in appendix Course information SAWEM.

Degree

Degree titles

Degree of Master of Science (120 credits) in Welfare Policies and Management

Major: Political Science

Major: Social Work

Major: Sociology

Filosofie masterexamen i välfärdspolitik och management

Huvudområde: Socialt arbete

Huvudområde: Sociologi

Huvudområde: Statsvetenskap

For a degree of Master of Science (120 credits) within the programme, the student must have passed the courses specified under "Course information" (or the equivalent courses at another higher education institution).

Requirements and Selection method

Requirements

To be eligible for the programme the applicant must have the equivalent of a Swedish Bachelor's degree with a major (i.e. at least 90 ECTS credits) in one of the following social sciences disciplines: Political Science, Social Work, Sociology or equivalent.

A good command of English language both spoken and written, equivalent to English

B/6 (advanced) proficiency in the Swedish secondary system, is required. Equivalence assessments will be made according to national guidelines.

Selection method

The applicant's estimated capacity to complete the programme is the major overall criterion for selection. Students are selected according to previous study results (grades on courses and thesis in the BA degree), statement of purpose, proficiency in English and an academic writing sample.

Other information

The language of instruction and assessment is English.

Appendix

Course information SAWEM

The programme comprises a total of 120 credits divided into courses of 7,5 or 15 credits each and a Master's thesis of 30 credits.

The programme structure with the three different Majors is as follows:

Year 1, autumn	WPMP01 - Welfare Regimes in Transition. Comparative perspectives on Policies, Management and Reform (15 credits)		
	WPMP03 - Organization, Leadership and Welfare Management (7,5 credits)		
	WPMP02 - Evaluation and Welfare Management (7,5 credits)		
Year 1, spring	WPMA11 - Economics: An Introduction to Public Economics (15 Credits)		
	Elective courses or internship (15 credits)		
Year 2, autumn	Courses in Political Science (15 credits), e.g. STVN10 - Policy Processes – Actors, Causes, and Consequences	Courses in Social Work (15 credits), e.g. SOAN36 Social Policy in Europe	Courses in Sociology (15 credits), e.g. SOCN17 Social Policy and Welfare Management
	Research Methods (15 credits)		
Year 2, spring	Master's Thesis (30 credits)		