Degree requirements

Swedish higher education is structured into three distinct cycles: first, second and third cycle. Each cycle builds on studies at the previous cycle. All degrees are placed within one of these cycles. In order to obtain a certain degree at Lund University, you need to fulfil the specific requirement for this degree, as detailed below:

Bachelor's degree (first-cycle degree)

A Bachelor of Arts/Science requires 180 credits (three years of full-time study) of completed courses, whereof at least 90 credits are first-cycle (Bachelor's) courses in the main field of study, including a thesis of at least 15 credits. At least 30 credits are required in at least one minor field of studies.

Master's degree (60 credits) (second-cycle degree)

A Master of Arts/Science (60 credits) requires 60 credits (one year of full-time study) of completed courses, whereof at least 30 credits are second-cycle (Master's) courses in the main field of study including a thesis of at least 15 credits.

In order to be awarded a Master's degree (60 credits), a Bachelor's degree or a professional degree, or equivalent, of at least 180 credits is required.

Master's degree (120 credits) (second-cycle degree)

A Master of Arts/Science (120 credits) requires 120 credits (two years of full-time study) of completed courses, whereof at least 60 credits are second cycle (Master's) courses in the main field of study, including a thesis of at least 30 credits or two of 15 credits each.

In order to be awarded a Master's degree (120 credits), a Bachelor's degree or a professional degree, or equivalent, of at least 180 credits is required.

Professional degrees (first-cycle degree/ second-cycle degree)

Professional qualifications are placed either within the first or the second cycle. Programmes leading to a professional degree vary in length depending on their content, comprising from 90 credits to 330 credits at Lund University. The professional degrees require enrolment in a full programme.

Licentiate (third-cycle degree)

A Licentiate requires at least 120 credits in total, including a thesis of at least 60 credits.

Doctor (third-cycle degree)

A Doctoral degree requires 240 credits in total, including a thesis of at least 120 credits. The thesis must be defended publicly.

For more information about Swedish higher education, please visit Swedish Higher Education Authority (Universitetskanslersämbetet)