Programme overview

The Master of Science in Development Studies is an interdisciplinary social science Master’s programme focusing on problems of poverty and development. The objective of the programme is to provide you with background knowledge and practical skills to understand, assess and work in development-related fields, whether in direct poverty reduction or in other aspects of social, economic and institutional development. You will acquire a critical social science approach and will conduct your own research within the context of the Master’s thesis. You will be trained in various social science methods, both qualitative and quantitative. You will also gain general skills like problem solving, working in teams, cultural understanding, writing independent reports as well as conceptual, analytical and evaluative skills.

The programme offers a wide range of alternatives for you. There are many social science courses within the Faculty of Social Science to provide you with deeper knowledge within your disciplinary background or in other fields beneficial to your research interests. You will be given the chance to take an active part in shaping your education by tailoring your studies to your interests and career goals, especially in the second half of the programme.

There are good opportunities to go abroad and take courses at one of the many universities with which we have exchange agreements. If you wish to work in development-related fields you can also choose to do an internship. Previous students have worked, for example, at embassies spread over the world, in governmental and non-governmental development agencies within the UN and the EU and in various NGOs, and in the private sector.

Programme modules/courses

COURSES AND NUMBER OF CREDITS: Theories and Issues in Development (15 credits), Courses in Research Methods (15), Historical Aspects of Development (15), Courses in the Theory of Sciences/Research Methods (15), Master’s degree thesis (30). Elective courses and/or studies abroad, and/or internship (30).

Career prospects

The programme provides you with both the background knowledge and the practical skills needed to work in development-related fields. You will gain a critical understanding of trends and debates within development work. The programme prepares you to make contributions to sustainable development in roles such as policy makers or practitioners in government agencies, private firms and NGOs. In addition, the programme prepares you for doctoral studies and a continued academic career.

Entry requirements and how to apply

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A Bachelor’s degree with a major in one of the following social sciences disciplines: development studies, education, gender studies, human geography, political science, social work, social anthropology, sociology and sociology of law or equivalent. A major is equivalent to a minimum of 90 ECTS credits or 50% of all degree course-work within one social science discipline. English 6/English Course B. See www.lunduniversity.lu.se for details on English proficiency levels.

“I chose Lund University because it has an excellent reputation, it is well-known and there is a clear international environment. It was undoubtedly the best choice for me.”

Ephrem Getnet from Ethiopia
HOW TO APPLY
1. Apply online: Go to www.lunduniversity.lu.se/ma-development-studies. Click on “Apply” and follow the instructions for the online application at www.universityadmissions.se, the Swedish national application website. Rank the chosen programmes in order of preference.
2. Submit your supporting documents:
   • General supporting documents: Check what documents you need to submit (i.e. official transcripts, degree diploma/proof of expected graduation, translations, proof of English, passport) and how you need to submit them at www.universityadmissions.se.
   • Programme-specific supporting documents: When applying for the MSc in Development Studies, you also need to submit a draft thesis proposal or a statement of purpose with your application.
4. Pay the application fee (when applicable).

SELECTION CRITERIA/ADDITIONAL INFO
Selection is made based on grades on the courses and thesis in the BA degree, as well as the draft thesis proposal or statement of purpose.

TUITION FEES
There are no tuition fees for EU/EEA citizens. For non-EU/EEA citizens the tuition fee for this programme is SEK 100 000 per year. For details on tuition fees, see www.lunduniversity.lu.se

About the Faculty of Social Sciences
The Faculty of Social Sciences offers a wide variety of Master’s programmes that are either interdisciplinary, thematic programmes or programmes in certain disciplines. The variety of programmes and courses makes it possible for most students to find something to suit their interests. You can obtain a Master’s degree in a traditional discipline such as Political Science or Sociology, or in a thematic field such as Development Studies or Global Studies. The degree you are awarded depends on the courses you take and within which discipline you write your Master’s thesis. All Master’s programmes at the Faculty give you eligibility for PhD studies. We also offer a Bachelor’s degree programme in Development Studies.

About Lund University
Lund University was founded in 1666 and is repeatedly ranked among the world’s top 100 universities. The University has 42 000 students and more than 7 680 staff based in Lund, Helsingborg and Malmö. We are united in our efforts to understand, explain and improve our world and the human condition.

Lund is Sweden’s most attractive study destination. The University offers one of the broadest ranges of programmes and courses in Scandinavia, based on cross-disciplinary and cutting-edge research. The compact university campus encourages networking and creates the conditions for scientific breakthroughs and innovations. The University has a clear international profile, with partner universities in over 70 countries.

Learn more at www.lunduniversity.lu.se
Ask questions and follow news at facebook.com/lunduniversity

CONTACT
Programme webpage
www.lunduniversity.lu.se/ma-development-studies
Study guidance
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