Programme overview
The LUMES programme trains critical thinking interdisciplinary sustainability scientists to tackle the “wicked problems” of the 21st century. LUMES provides the skill-set necessary to deal with problems that are complex and that are at all times characterised by both ecological and social dimensions.

LUMES focuses on complex sustainability challenges (e.g. climate change, food security, biodiversity loss, land-use change) from local to global levels and through a social and natural science perspective. Building on the knowledge and experiences students already possess, emphasis is placed on understanding present societal development patterns and the environmental problems they create, as well as approaches for formulating strategies for future sustainable pathways.

LUMES does not concentrate on training technicians; the foundation of the programme is rather an interdisciplinary and holistic perspective for comprehending the interactions between social, economic and environmental systems, as well as a focus on the paradigms, concepts, and underlying assumptions in which the debates about the interactions are grounded.

Unique programme qualities
LUMES is an interdisciplinary programme that integrates the natural and social sciences. The programme provides in-depth study of sustainability challenges through a range of perspectives on sustainability from earth systems science through to social theory. LUMES trains generalists who are nonetheless specialised in a particular area. Our elective courses, offered in the third semester, provide an insight into these specialisations. Examples of such courses are: Water and Sustainability, Gender and Sustainability in Everyday Life, Social Movements and Sustainability, and Energy and Sustainability.

The LUMES programme is set in a unique interdisciplinary and international educational milieu, creating a setting that challenges students to broaden personal outlooks and sharpen critical thinking skills. Courses are taught by individuals from both the social and natural sciences with the aims of creating graduates that are able to grasp, analyse, and formulate governance strategies and practices for transformational change. In addition, interpersonal and academic skills are developed through strong emphases on group work, presentations, academic writing, and direct interactions with society.

Since the programme started in 1997, LUMES has had over 600 students from roughly 100 countries, with a graduation rate exceeding 90 per cent.

Programme modules/courses
COURSES AND NUMBER OF CREDITS: Earth Systems Science (10), Social Theory and Sustainability (10), Sustainability Science (10), Governance of Sustainability (7.5), Urban and Rural Systems and Sustainability (10), Economy and Sustainability (7.5), Knowledge to Action (5), elective courses (30), Master’s degree project (30). For details, please see www.lumes.lu.se.

Career prospects
Industries, governments, academics, NGOs, and communities are recognising the significance of addressing complex social, environmental and economic problems holistically. As such, the interdisciplinary training gained through the programme opens employment opportunities for a wide array of career paths in various private sector, governmental, non-governmental, and academic settings. We have former students working for transnational companies, international environmental NGOs as well as international organisations.

“I came to LUMES wanting to expand my capacities as a global citizen to impact positive change for Ghana. Now, at the end of the programme, I believe I can do just that. LUMES teaches you to see and understand with different eyes, a quality needed more than ever in today’s world where difference seems to be emphasised above all else.”
Abdallah Smith, from Ghana
such as the World Bank, the FAO or the UN. Many graduates have also continued doctoral studies and are now working at universities around the world.

Entry requirements and how to apply

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
At least an undergraduate degree (BA/BSc) with a major (90 ECTS credits) in topics relevant for the programme. LUMES is a transdisciplinary programme and we strive to have an as diverse group of students as possible; therefore, we admit students from all academic backgrounds (all majors are relevant). English Level 6 (equivalent to IELTS 6.5, TOEFL 90). See www.lunduniversity.lu.se for details on English levels.

HOW TO APPLY
1. Apply online: Go to the webpage www.lunduniversity.lu.se/environmental-studies. Click on “Apply” and follow the instructions for the online application at the Swedish national application website www.universityadmissions.se. 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 of English, passport) and how you need to submit them at www.universityadmissions.se.
   • Programme-specific supporting documents: When applying for this programme you also need to submit a statement of purpose, a CV and letters of recommendation with your application. Instructions can be found at www.lumes.lu.se.
3. Pay the application fee (when applicable).

SELECTION CRITERIA/ADDITIONAL INFO
Selection to the programme is based significantly on previous academic performance, letters of recommendation and the 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 110 000 per year. For details on tuition, see www.lunduniversity.lu.se.

About LUCSUS
Lund University Centre for Sustainability Science (LUCSUS) is a place for education, research and collaboration on questions related to sustainable development. We combine critical perspectives with solutions-based approaches. At the core of our work is the belief that sustainability is a complex field – and best understood and explained through interdisciplinary research in close collaboration with society. Our research focuses on sustainability challenges – and is often conducted in international cooperation. We have a strong international research profile through the Centre’s involvement in the Earth System Governance Project and by the appointment as a Right Livelihood College.

In addition to our international Master’s Programme in Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science (LUMES) we also offer a PhD programme in sustainability science. We have a staff of about 35 people, of whom about a third are doctoral students.

LUCSUS runs an extensive outreach and impact activities programme to advance the societal dialogue on sustainability. Through this programme, we communicate our research to society, in close collaboration with stakeholders, governments and non-governmental organisations. Learn more about the Centre at www.lumes.lu.se.

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 7 400 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 the most popular study location in Sweden. The University offers one of the broadest ranges of programmes and courses in Scandinavia, based on cross-disciplinary and cutting-edge research. The University has a distinct 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
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Disclaimer: Changes may have been made since the printing of this fact sheet. Please see www.lunduniversity.lu.se for any updates.