MSc in Social Scientific Data Analysis

LUND UNIVERSITY | SWEDEN

- Master of Science in Social Scientific Data Analysis
- 2 years, full-time, 120 ECTS credits
- Graduate School, Faculty of Social Sciences
- Lund Campus
- Application deadline: January 2023
- Programme start: August 2023

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

The Master of Science in Social Scientific Data Analysis will prepare you to become a professional researcher/social scientific data analyst with a specialisation on the research process and research methodology. Coursework involves extensive and intensive training in the process of conducting social research, research design, methodology, qualitative and quantitative methods (students are taught to program using state-of-the-art statistical software 'R'), as well as applied theory, theory building, and a range of interdisciplinary theories. As a graduate, you will be well suited for two complementary job markets: as data analysts, researchers, and research project managers within the private and public spheres, and civil society, as well as PhD candidate-ships within academia.

PROGRAMME MODULES/COURSES

Courses and number of credits

Semester 1:
- The Research Process, 15 credits (first half of the first term)
- Introduction to Quantitative Methods Using R, 15 credits (second half of the first term)

Semester 2:
- Using Social Theory, 7.5 credits (part one of the first half of the second term)
- Intermediate Quantitative Methods Using R, 7.5 credits (part two of the first half of the second term)
- Two Qualitative Elective Courses, 15 credits, (second half of the second term)

Semester 3:
- Disciplinary Elective Period, 15 credits (first half of the third term)
- Advanced Theory Elective, 7.5 credits (part one of the second half of the third term)
- Advanced Methods Elective, 7.5 credits (part two of the second half of the third term)

Semester 4:
- Master's thesis in the student's major social science discipline, 30 credits (the fourth term)

CAREER PROSPECTS

The programme will train students with the following qualifications:

A. the professional researcher, analyst and research manager: professional researchers skilled in a variety of methods, to include at least intermediate to advanced quantitative and qualitative methods. Methods and methodological skills will allow researchers not only to conduct research but also will allow them to better assess and use existing studies as evidence for policy/programme design. An in-depth understanding of the method used in a study allows students to immediately see flaws and opportunities for improvement of the evidence base for the policy/programme an organisation is developing. Ideal labor markets here would be 'data science' with social scientific training (e.g. conducting data analysis, market research for research organisations, IT companies, general organisational consultancies, risk management firms, intelligence analysis, or other private companies).

B. the PhD candidate with strong methodology training linked to both methods and theory: training students who would like to apply for an international PhD position and learn a certain type of applicable skills (methods, methodology, research design, meta-theory, using social theory).

In addition to the above-mentioned skills, students will also learn programming skills (in 'R', a flexible, powerful, and open-source statistical software) and research publishing skills.

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, gender studies, human geography, political science, social work, social anthropology, sociology, or sociology of law, or equivalent. A major is equivalent to a minimum of 90 ECTS credits or 50% of all degree coursework solely within one social science discipline. English Level 6. See www.lunduniversity.lu.se for details on English proficiency levels.

How to apply

1. Apply online: Go to www.lunduniversity.lu.se/social-scientific-data-analysis. 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 Master of Science in Social Scientific Data Analysis, you must submit evidence of your previous study results (grades on courses and Bachelor's degree essay), proficiency in English, as well as a statement of purpose which should also include a brief statement on previous experience/knowledge in methods and methodology.
- **3. Pay the application fee (when applicable).**

Selection criteria/additional info

The applicant's estimated capacity to complete the programme is the primary criterion for selection. Students are selected on the basis of their previous study results (grades on courses and thesis in the Bachelor's degree), proficiency in English, and a statement of purpose.

Since this a multidisciplinary programme it is essential to attain an even distribution among different majors within the group. The number of admitted applicants from one major shall not exceed 30% of all students admitted to the programme.

Hence the applicant's major will be used as a selection criterion in case of many applicants from one major. The following main fields of study are eligible as majors: Gender Studies, Development Studies, Human Geography, Political Science, Social Work, Social Anthropology, Sociology, and Sociology of Law.

Tuition fees

Tuition fee SEK 110 000 per year for non-EU/EEA citizens. No fee for EU/EEA citizens. See www.lunduniversity.lu.se for details on tuition fees.

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 attain 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. Internships in Sweden or abroad can be included within several of the social sciences programmes.

Lund University was founded in 1666 and is repeatedly ranked among the world's top 100 universities. The University has around 46 000 students and more than 8 000 staff based in Lund, Helsingborg and Malmö. We are united in our efforts to understand, explain and improve our world and the human condition.

Learn more at www.lunduniversity.lu.se

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