



LUND
UNIVERSITY

MSc in Cultural Criminology

LUND UNIVERSITY | SWEDEN

- Master of Science in Cultural Criminology
- 2 years, full-time, 120 ECTS credits
- Department of Sociology
- Lund Campus
- Application deadline: January 2025
- Programme start: August 2025

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

What are the attractions in dealing drugs, being part of a gang or a deviant subculture? How can we explain the lure of the seemingly irrational and meaningless destruction of property, or of online harassment? The Master's Programme in Cultural Criminology aims to explain and understand how people involved in deviance and crime go about their everyday life and how they interact with others, echoing sociologist Jack Katz' famous question: What is it that people are trying to accomplish through crime?

Instead of focusing on statistics, such as increases in crime or correlations of numbers, which traditional criminology often has relied upon, we ask what governs relationships in the drug world or that of prostitution, among buyers, sellers and the police. We aim to get inside the experiences of committing or controlling crime and to grasp the biographical and emotional aspects.

If you are a graffiti writer, what are the thrills? What tools are you expected to use, what vocabulary and even what clothes are you expected to wear? How can we understand and analyse the experiences and situations of paper-less migrants, and how do we place their uncertain situation in a global economy? What role does masculinity and status play among terrorists, or incels, or binge-drinking tourists? What part does the media play in our understanding of crime? And how about true crime stories – what part do they play in describing personal experiences and detailed accounts of life inside institutions?

We will approach these questions and many more, mainly through qualitative methods such as different types of interviews, participant observations, and also through analysis of texts, images and Internet data.

In short, cultural criminology is a unique approach to crime, deviance and control, combining insights from sociology, social anthropology and social psychology with those of critical, narrative, and feminist criminology. It is cultural in the sense that our focus lies on how local cultures, subcultures and broader cultural structures affect the way we perceive, interpret and act upon the world. We look at patterns of meaning and how crime and deviance can become something attractive and captivating.

The MSc in Cultural Criminology leads to a Master's degree in Cultural Criminology with a major in Sociology or Social Anthropology. The programme also allows freedom to select courses, an internship or studies abroad.

As a student of the programme, you will acquire:

- Knowledge and understanding within criminology, social anthropology and sociology, including knowledge of the disciplinary foundation of the fields and general knowledge of current research issues.
- Specialised knowledge of research methods in cultural criminology.
- The ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and to analyse, assess and deal with complex cultural criminological phenomena, issues and situations.
- The ability to identify and formulate research questions 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.
- The skills required for participation in research and development work or autonomous employment in some other qualified capacity.

PROGRAMME MODULES/COURSES

COURSES AND NUMBER OF CREDITS: Semester 1: Theories, Perspectives and Concepts of Cultural Criminology (15 credits), Ethnography in Social Science (15 credits) or Sociology: Methods and Social Analysis (15 credits). **Semester 2:** Applied Cultural Criminology – Analysis, Organisation and Strategies (15 credits), Methods courses given by Graduate School (15 credits). **Semester 3:** Elective courses of relevance to the programme or internship or studies abroad (30 credits). **Semester 4:** Master's thesis (30 credits).

CAREER PROSPECTS

Crime and punishment are continuously topical in public debate. Furthermore, they constitute the basis for many of modern society's professions and professional activities: prison officers, crime prevention officers, university lecturers, police officers, social analysts, etc. This programme will also prepare you for PhD-studies and a continued academic career.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS AND HOW TO APPLY

Entry requirements

A Bachelor's degree in social anthropology, sociology, or equivalent. English Level 6.

How to apply

1. Apply online: Go to www.lunduniversity.lu.se/cultural-criminology. 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 Cultural Criminology, you also need to submit a statement of purpose (of around one page) with your application. Find more information on the programme webpage.
- **3. Pay the application fee (when applicable).**

Selection criteria/additional info

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

Tuition fees

Tuition fee SEK 125 000 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 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

The Department of Sociology was founded in 1947 and is today one of the largest departments at the Faculty of Social Sciences, with about 80 employees and more than 700 full-time students. We have a long and robust tradition of broad, dedicated and diverse teaching and research. Today, the department hosts two disciplines – sociology and social anthropology.

Our research revolves around explaining how people organise themselves in social, cultural and historical contexts. Our researchers are engaged in a variety of fields, creating a rich research environment, which is also reflected in our wide range of courses. The department offers courses and programmes in both English and Swedish at the bachelor's and master's level, and also a PhD-programme in both sociology and social anthropology. The Department of Sociology cooperates with a large number of other departments within Lund University and other universities globally.

ABOUT LUND UNIVERSITY

Lund University was founded in 1666 and is repeatedly ranked among the world's top universities. The University has around 47 000 students and 8 800 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 considered one of the most popular study locations 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 unique disciplinary range encourages boundary-crossing collaborations both within academia and with wider society, creating great conditions for scientific breakthroughs and innovations. The University has a distinct international profile, with partner universities in about 70 countries.

Lund University has an annual turnover of EUR 938 million, of which two-thirds go to research in our nine faculties, enabling us to offer one of the strongest and broadest ranges of research in Scandinavia.

CONTACT

Programme webpage:
www.lunduniversity.lu.se/cultural-criminology
Study Advisers at the Department of Sociology:
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