Programme overview

The Master’s programme in Asian Studies at Lund University is a popular programme and our students appreciate the truly international milieu with fellow students from a great number of nations and teachers who are established experts on Asia in different disciplines in the social sciences.

The aim of this transdisciplinary programme is to provide our students with advanced knowledge about current issues in Asia. Students gain expertise on contemporary Asian societies and are able to specialise based on the regional, thematic and disciplinary focus they choose. Most of our students carry out fieldwork in an Asian country of their choice. The students have the option of taking our applied fieldwork course at one of our partner universities in Asia.

As a student on this programme, you will:
• learn to analyse complex issues related to social, cultural, political and economic developments in Asia and acquire the capacity to analyse their causes and interrelations and to propose possible solutions, as well as identify future trends and developments
• gain the ability to work in an interdisciplinary setting and in a multicultural international environment
• learn to plan and use appropriate methods, undertake advanced tasks within predetermined time frames and so contribute to the formation of knowledge and evaluation
• gain the skills required for work in research, government agencies or employment in some other qualified capacity
• be able to demonstrate knowledge about scientific communication channels and be able to monitor the knowledge development within the field of Asian studies

Programme modules/courses

COURSES AND NUMBER OF CREDITS:
- Asian Studies (6)
- The Economic Transformation of Asia (12)
- Political Systems, Governance and Democracy in Asia (12)
- region-specific courses (China, Japan/Korea, Southeast Asia) (15)
- Methodology in Theory and Practice (15), six to nine optional courses, of which the student chooses three (3x7.5), Applied Fieldwork (methods) (7.5), Master’s thesis (30).

Career prospects

Graduates of the MSc Programme in Asian Studies have a number of career opportunities available to them after their graduation. Many graduates continue to doctoral studies at universities throughout Europe and beyond.

Currently, our graduates are enrolled in doctoral programmes in a wide range of fields including political science, economic history, service management, demography, international relations, legal studies and sustainable development. We also have students who continue in academia as programme managers for study courses, international coordinators and research assistants.

Some of our students work in government administration, for example, Foreign Ministries, the Nordic Council of Ministers, embassies and various UN agencies. Other students obtain employment in NGOs around the world, for example, the Asia Foundation, the Red Cross and Oxfam. In the private sector, we find our graduates employed as business analysts, consultants, project leaders, project coordinators, business developers, brand managers, company directors, freelance journalists and newspaper editors.

“The knowledge and experiences learnt from the Centre were extremely helpful in finding a job in the field of international development here in Korea, and are still useful when I deal with my daily work. Familiarity with the political, economic, social, historical and cultural context of Asian countries helps me coordinate and implement development programmes.”

Sunmee Lee from South Korea
Entry requirements and how to apply

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
A Bachelor’s degree in the social sciences, economics, law or social science-oriented disciplines in humanities from a recognised institution of higher education. English Level 6 (equivalent to IELTS 6.5, TOEFL 90). See www.lunduniversity.lu.se for details on English proficiency levels.

HOW TO APPLY
1. Apply online: Go to www.lunduniversity.lu.se/asian-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 Asian Studies, you must also submit a statement of purpose and a CV with your application.
3. Pay the application fee (when applicable).

SELECTION CRITERIA/ADDITIONAL INFO
Selection of students is based on previous academic achievements and the following criteria:
• Grades on courses
• English language level
• Documented knowledge of and/or interest in the field of Asian studies and statement of purpose
• Non-academic knowledge and/or work experience of relevance to Asian studies

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. See www.lunduniversity.lu.se for details on tuition fees.

About the Centre for East and South-East Asian Studies
The Centre for East and South-East Asian Studies was created in 1997 as the result of a special government initiative. The Centre’s task is the encouragement and furtherance of research in Sweden concerning modern East and South-East Asia, including the rapidly changing societies, developing economies and political institutions in the region. Building upon existing strengths at Lund University in these fields, the Centre is actively engaged in developing new contacts with institutions and individuals in Asia and elsewhere. The Centre is involved in a wide range of activities. These include hosting guest lectures and seminars and organising and providing financial support to conferences and specialised courses. The Centre maintains what is generally acclaimed to be Scandinavia’s best-stocked library of contemporary books and journals concerning East and South-East Asia.

About Lund University
Lund University was founded in 1666 and is repeatedly ranked among the world’s top 100 universities. The University has 40,000 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 compact university campus encourages networking and creates the conditions for scientific breakthroughs and innovations. 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
Programme webpage
www.lunduniversity.lu.se/asian-studies
International Liaison Officer
Nina Brand, nina.brand@ace.lu.se, +46 46 222 3861