NANGE, Master Programme in Physical Geography and Ecosystem Science, 120 credits

Second cycle degree programme requiring previous university study / Program med akademiska förkunskapskrav och med slutlig examen på avancerad nivå

**Decision**

The programme syllabus was approved by the Board of the Faculty of Science on 7 February 2007, in accordance with the Higher Education Ordinance 1993:100 (amend. 2006:1053). The syllabus comes into effect on 1 July 2007.

Amendment details:
- Decision by Pro-dean 31 August 2007. Valid from 1 September 2007.
- Faculty Board 8 February 2017. Valid from 1 July 2017.

**Programme description**

The programme for a degree of Master of Science specialising in Physical Geography and Ecosystem Science comprises 120 credits and leads to a degree of Master of Science (120 credits) with a major in Physical Geography and Ecosystem Science.

The programme is based on scholarship and is closely linked to research conducted at the Lund University Faculty of Science. The operations at the faculty uphold academic credibility and good research practice and are arranged to ensure that high standards are attained in courses and study programmes. Furthermore, the operations promote sustainable development, equality between women and men and understanding of other countries and international circumstances. These aspects are integrated in the degree outcomes of the programme.

Second-cycle courses and study programmes in the main field of Physical Geography and Ecosystem Science are fundamentally based on the knowledge acquired by students during first-cycle courses and study programmes.

Second-cycle courses and study programmes in the main field of Physical Geography and Ecosystem Science involve the acquisition of specialist knowledge, competence and skills in relation to first-cycle courses and study programmes, and
in addition to the requirements for first-cycle courses and study programmes shall:
- further develop the ability of students to integrate and make autonomous use of
  their knowledge,
- develop the students’ ability to deal with complex phenomena, issues and
  situations, and
- develop the students’ potential for professional activities that demand
  considerable autonomy, or for research and development work.

The programme applies a learning perspective, in which students take an active
role in the learning process, and consciously and continuously reflect on their
learning and development towards the degree outcomes.

The appendix *Achievement of learning outcomes for a degree of Master of Science
with a major in Physical Geography and Ecosystem Science at the Faculty of
Science* describes the disciplinary foundation and links to research of the
programme.

**Goals**

*Knowledge and understanding*

For a degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including
  both broad knowledge of the field and a considerable degree of specialised
  knowledge in certain areas of the field as well as insight into current research and
  development work, and
- demonstrate specialised methodological knowledge in the main field of study.

*Competence and skills*

For a degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall
- demonstrate the ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and
  analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations even with
  limited information,
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues 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,
- demonstrate the ability in speech and writing both nationally and internationally
  to clearly report and discuss his or her conclusions and the knowledge and
  arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences, and
- demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development
  work or autonomous employment in some other qualified capacity.

*Judgement and approach*

For a degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall
- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the main field of study informed
  by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues and also to demonstrate
  awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work,
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in
  society and the responsibility of the individual for it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and
  take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.
**Independent project (degree project)**
A requirement for the award of a degree of Master (120 credits) is completion by the student of an independent project (degree project) for at least 30 credits in the main field of study. The degree project may comprise less than 30 credits, however no less than 15 credits, if the student has already completed an independent project in the second cycle for at least 15 credits in the main field of study or the equivalent from a programme of study outside Sweden.

**Course information**
The programme comprises 2 years for a degree of Master (120 credits). The appendix *Achievement of learning outcomes for a degree of Master of Science with a major in Physical Geography and Ecosystem Science at the Faculty of Science* describes the courses included.

**Degree**
Degree titles
Degree of Master of Science (120 credits)
Major: Physical Geography and Ecosystem Science

*Naturvetenskaplig masterexamen*
*Huvudområde: Naturgeografi och ekosystemvetenskap*

**Requirements and Selection method**

**Requirements**
Degree of Bachelor of Science of at least 180 credits in physical geography, geology, geoscience, biology/ecology, physics, agronomy, forest science, environmental science or the equivalent.

Proficiency in English equivalent to English 6/B from Swedish upper-secondary school.

**Selection Method**
The selection will be based on grades awarded for previous academic courses, particularly qualifying courses, as well as a statement of purpose for the application and professional qualifications and/or other practical experience of relevance to the study programme (from the applicant’s “Summary sheet”).

**Transition rules**
The Faculty Board may decide to discontinue a programme or main field, and will in this context also decide on transitional provisions for students who have commenced study on the programmes concerned.

**Other information**

Rules for grades and assessment are included in the course syllabi approved by the Faculty Board.