

- 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 2024
- Programme start: August 2024

## 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 solely within one social science discipline. English Level 6. See [www.lunduniversity.lu.se](http://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](http://www.lunduniversity.lu.se/social-scientific-data-analysis). Click on "Apply" and follow the instructions for the online application at [www.universityadmissions.se](http://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](http://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 125 000 per year for non-EU/EEA citizens. No fee for EU/EEA citizens. See [www.lunduniversity.lu.se](http://www.lunduniversity.lu.se) for details on tuition fees.

#### ABOUT GRADUATE SCHOOL

Graduate School at the Faculty of Social Sciences is home to five international and interdisciplinary master's programs, including the Master of Science in Social Scientific Data Analysis. As a unit for interdisciplinary studies, our students come from a range of academic backgrounds and are taught by academic staff from various disciplines across the faculty. All of our programs and elective courses are taught in English and promote both internationalisation and research methodology training within the social sciences. During their third term, students have the opportunity to pursue an internship, elective courses, or study abroad, gaining skills and experience that will enhance their academic and professional profiles after graduating. Alumni of our master's programs are well-equipped for studies on the doctoral level, governmental or NGO work, or careers in the public or private sectors worldwide.

#### CONTACT

Programme webpage:  
[www.lunduniversity.lu.se/  
social-scientific-data-analysis](http://www.lunduniversity.lu.se/social-scientific-data-analysis)

[www.graduateschool.sam.  
lu.se/](http://www.graduateschool.sam.lu.se/)

Study Advisors:  
[master@sam.lu.se](mailto:master@sam.lu.se)

Lund University was founded in 1666 and is repeatedly ranked among the world's top universities. The University has around 45 000 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](http://www.lunduniversity.lu.se)



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