



FACULTY OF EDUCATION

International Master's Programme in Educational Research, 120 credits

Internationellt masterprogram i utbildningsvetenskaplig forskning, 120 högskolepoäng

Programme code: S2IME

Second cycle / Avancerad nivå

1. Confirmation

This programme syllabus was confirmed by the Faculty Board of Education on 28-02-2024 (GU 2023/2845) to be valid from 01-09-2025, Autumn semester 2025.

Responsible Department/Equivalent: Department of Education and Special Education

Participating Departments:

Department of Pedagogical, Curricular and Professional Studies

2. Purpose

The programme prepares students for conducting research in education. The studies are conducted within an enriching international student environment. The programme will develop the students' understanding of central themes in educational research, focusing on education and learning as individual, interactive and collective processes, and provide a comprehensive overview of scholarly inquiry related to education research and its practical applications.

3. Entry requirements

A bachelor's degree (180 credits) in one of the fields; Educational Sciences, Social Sciences or Humanities, or a teacher's degree of at least 180 credits. Applicants must also prove their knowledge of English: English 6/English B from Swedish Upper Secondary School or the equivalent level of an internationally recognized test, for example TOEFL, IELTS.

4. Higher education qualification and main field of study

This programme leads to a Degree of Master of Science (120 credits) with a major in Education

with Specialization in Educational Research (Filosofie masterexamen med huvudområdet Pedagogik med inriktning mot utbildningsvetenskaplig forskning).

A Degree Certificate will be issued on request after the reported completion of all courses.

5. Outcomes

General outcomes for Degree of Master (120 credits)

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 how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

Local outcomes

- demonstrate in-depth and current knowledge and understanding of scholarly inquiry within selected areas of educational research and its possible impact on educational practices.

- demonstrate the ability to problematise different ways to engage and present educational research including visual methods and cooperative writing
- demonstrate the ability to write and report on educational science research in a professional manner
- demonstrate the ability to critically, systematically integrate and analyse different aspects of knowledge in education
- demonstrate the ability to critically, independently and creatively identify and pursue the research process and thus contribute to the area of educational research
- demonstrate an understanding of the ethical principles and approaches in doing research and how different choices affect the participants and the context under study
- demonstrate the ability to assess sustainability concerns in education.

Knowledge and understanding

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- demonstrate specialised methodological knowledge in the main field of study

Competence and skills

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Judgement and approach

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the main field of study informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues
- demonstrate awareness of ethical and sustainability-related 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 how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

6. Content and structure

The International Master's Programme in Educational Research is organised as a two-year full time education (120 higher education credits). The programme is accessible to both foreign and

Swedish students. The programme is based on the broad and interdisciplinary research domain of educational sciences, wherein the variation in research in terms of perspectives, theories and methods is extensive. In addition to learning about educational research traditions and grappling with research methods often used in the educational sciences, students will actively explore their own unfolding identity as educational researcher and will be introduced to educational research as reflexive—or ‘identity shaping’—social practice by delving into research projects and discussing them with researchers. The programme concludes with a Master’s thesis (30 higher education credits) which students will conduct under the supervision of research-active staff.

Courses

The programme consists of seven compulsory courses.

Year 1:

- PDA085 Introduction to International Master in Educational Research, 15 hec
- PDA185 Introduction to Educational Research Practice, 15 hec
- PDA084 Qualitative Approaches to Educational Research, 15 hec
- PDA186 Design, Measurement and Analysis in Educational Research, 15 hec

Year 2:

- PDA183 Academic Reading in Education, 15 higher education credits
- PDA182 Academic Writing and Research Design, 15 higher education credits
- PDA184 Master Thesis in Education, 30 higher education credits

7. Guaranteed admission

Students who follow the programme in the normal rate of study (full-time) have general guaranteed admission to the courses within the programme as long as the student fulfil the entry requirements for the course/courses.

8. Other information

Language of instruction in the programme is English.

Evaluation of the courses within the programme is offered and functions as a guide for the on going activities and also for the development of future courses. The results of the evaluation will be communicated to the students in the course as well as to prospective students who will attend the next course. An evaluation of the whole programme will be carried out at the end of it, in accordance with current University of Gothenburg policy documents.

The study programme will be followed up and evaluated in accordance with the applicable *Policy för kvalitetssäkring och kvalitetsutveckling av utbildning vid Göteborgs universitet* (Policy for the Quality assurance and Quality Development of Education at the University of Gothenburg).