



FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Master's Programme in Geography, 120 credits

Geografi, masterprogram, 120 högskolepoäng

Programme code: N2GEO

Second cycle / Avancerad nivå

1. Confirmation

This programme syllabus was confirmed by the Faculty of Science on 06-10-2009 (G 2009/) and was last revised on 12-12-2023 (GU 2023/3352) by the Dean of the Faculty to be valid from 12-12-2023, Autumn semester 2023.

Responsible Department/equivalent: Department of Earth Sciences

Participating Departments:

Department of Economy and Society

2. Purpose

Most of the planet's population now live and work in urban areas. This places great demands on sustainable urban development and raises questions concerning urban areas in a regional context.

The Master's Programme in Geography aims to provide geographers with sufficient professional knowledge to work independently with complex geographical problems and carry out advanced evaluation and planning in the fields of sustainable urban development and urban-rural relations, including between cities and regions.

Depending on the student's specialization, the programme offers specialized competence in sustainable development in the areas: urban and rural development, mobility, globalization and Geographic Information Systems - GIS.

A degree of Master of Science in Geography prepares students for further postgraduate studies in Geography, Human Geography or Physical Geography.

3. Entry requirements

A Bachelor's degree in the main field of geography (180 credits) including a minimum of 15 credits in GIS (Geographical Information Systems). Applicants with an equivalent education

can after assessment be admitted to the programme.

Applicants must prove their knowledge of English corresponding to English 6/English B from Swedish Upper Secondary School. For more information, see *English language requirements* on Universityadmissions.se

Other entry requirements are documented in the respective course syllabi.

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 Geography (Filosofie masterexamen med huvudområdet Geografi).

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 their 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 their ongoing learning.

Local outcomes

For a Degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall:

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in geography including broad knowledge in the field as well as significantly in-depth knowledge in certain areas of the field as well as in-depth insight into current research and development.
- demonstrate in-depth methodological knowledge in geography.
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of geographical problems concerning urban areas and the relation between urban-rural as well as regions.

Competence and skills

- demonstrate the ability to integrate critically and to systematically integrate knowledge and to analyze, assess and manage complex phenomena, geographical problems and situations even with limited information.
- demonstrate the ability to identify critically, independently and creatively identify and formulate geographical problems, plan for and carry out qualified tasks with accurate methods and evaluate the work within the given time frames and thereby contribute to development of knowledge.
- demonstrate the ability to, in national as well as international contexts, orally and in writing clearly present and discuss conclusions and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different groups.
- demonstrate skills required for participating in research- and development or work independently in other qualified areas.
- perform analyses of independently collected qualitative and quantitative data or other material (databases) using relevant analysis tools. Emphasis is placed on the use of geographical information systems (GIS).
- demonstrate solid knowledge of project management and be able to independently plan for, implement and present projects both in writing and orally.

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the field of geography with consideration to relevant scientific, societal and ethical aspects and demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development.
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of science, its role in society and human responsibility for how its used.
- demonstrate the ability to identify their need for additional knowledge and to take responsibility for further knowledge development.
- be able to identify, formulate and critically examine geographical problems concerning urban areas and the urban-rural relationship as well as between urban areas and regions.

6. Content and structure

The Master's Programme in Geography includes two years of full-time studies, 120 credits (four semesters), consisting of the following courses:

Compulsory courses

GE5000 Urban Sustainable Development, 7,5 credits

KGA181 History of Ideas and Theory in Geography, 7,5 credits

NGN230 Urban GIS, 7,5 credits

GE6000 Urban Climate and Urban Climate Planning, 7,5 credits

GEO230/GEO245/KGA230/KGA245 Master thesis in Geography (30/45 credits)

Elective courses

For students with a human geographical profile, the course KGA131 and at least one of the following courses are recommended: KGA141 or KGA122.

For students with a physical geographical profile, it is recommended: NG0220, and at least one of the courses: GV2300, GVN360 or GVN460.

Master thesis (Degree project)

For a Master's Degree in Geography (120 credits) the student must, within the framework of the programme requirements, have completed a degree project of 30-45 credits in the main field of the education.

To be eligible to start the Master thesis course, completed courses of at least 45 credits are required within the framework of the program. The degree project must be in English.

7. Guaranteed admission

A student can not be given guaranteed admission to the first choice of the elective courses.

8. Other information

The language of instruction is English.

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).