

COSM55, Asian Studies: Work Placement, 15 credits

Asienstudier: Praktik, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2026-09-08 (U 2026/504). The syllabus comes into effect 2026-09-13 and is valid from the autumn semester 2027.

General information

The course is an elective component of the third semester of the Master of Science Programme (120 credits) in Asian Studies.

Language of instruction: English

<i>Main field of study</i>	<i>Specialisation</i>
Asian Studies	A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements
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Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- identify their own expertise and subject knowledge in Asian Studies in relation to working life and account for how this expertise can be developed;
- account for how theories, methods and perspectives from Asian Studies can be applied in professional contexts with Asia-related content.

Competence and skills

- critically, systematically and independently apply expertise and knowledge from Asian Studies in a specific professional context;
- analyse observations, tasks and experiences from the work placement using relevant theoretical and methodological tools from Asian Studies;
- plan, carry out and report on a qualified assignment or project with clear relevance to Asian Studies within an agreed time frame;
- discuss, in writing and orally, the role and relevance of expertise in Asian Studies in working life.

Judgement and approach

- assess their own subject expertise and identify their need for additional knowledge and skills in relation to potential career paths;
- reflect on the contribution that perspectives from Asian Studies can make in a workplace;
- discuss and take a position, in writing and orally, on issues concerning ethics, power and social distinctions that may arise in working life;
- evaluate the relationship between academic knowledge, professional practice and their own role in the host organisation.

Course content

The aim of the course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop, reflect on and communicate their expertise in Asian Studies in a professional context. The course provides the opportunity to apply theoretical and methodological knowledge through an advanced work placement at a public authority, organisation, company or other relevant workplace in Sweden or abroad.

The placement is to have a clear connection to Asian Studies. At the workplace, the student is to participate actively in ordinary work and carry out qualified and varied duties. The duties are to be associated with the student's previous studies and are to give the student the opportunity to use and develop previously acquired knowledge and expertise.

The placement report and the final seminar contribute to the student's reflection on the relationship between academic knowledge and professional practice and to the student's ability to communicate their knowledge in relation to working life.

Course design

The course is a distance learning course. The department will provide information about the technical requirements.

It is the student's responsibility to organise a work placement and finance any travel, accommodation and other costs connected to the placement. The placement, the workplace supervisor and the main duties during the placement are to be approved by the course director before the placement begins. Prior to the commencement of the placement, a three-way agreement is to be drawn up between the placement

provider, the student and Lund University (the department). The placement must not begin before it has been approved by the course director and the three-way agreement has been completed.

The duration of the placement is to be a minimum of 9 weeks. The student is to follow the standard working hours agreed upon for the placement. During the placement period, time is to be allocated for the student's work on the course assignments.

Attendance during the internship and at the concluding seminar is compulsory. Absence from the concluding seminar may be compensated for by completing an assignment in accordance with instructions from the course coordinator. Absence from the internship is handled in consultation with the course coordinator and the internship provider. Extensive absence normally refers to absence corresponding to approximately 30 per cent of the planned working time. A lower level of absence may also be considered extensive if the internship provider assesses that the absence is of such an extent that the internship plan cannot be considered to have been fulfilled. Extensive absence may result in the internship period having to be extended or a new internship period having to be completed.

Assessment

Assessment is based on:

- completed work placement, documented by a certificate from the placement provider;
- an individual written placement report that analyses the placement and the student's assignment using relevant theories and methods from Asian Studies;
- oral presentation of the placement report and active participation in the final seminar.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of assessment to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of assessment equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

If it is not possible to implement the regular form of assessment at a resit, deviations may be made, provided that the alternative form is compatible with the course learning outcomes. Information about resits is to be available at the start of the course.

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Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: U=Fail, E=Sufficient, D=Satisfactory, C=Good, B=Very Good, A=Excellent

The final grade for the course is calculated as a weighted average of the grades awarded for the two assessment components. The grades are converted into numerical values as follows: A=5, B=4, C=3, D=2 and E=1. The internship report is weighted at 60 per cent, while the oral presentation of the internship report and active participation in the concluding seminar are weighted at 40 per cent. The weighted average is calculated according to the following formula:

$(0.60 \times \text{grade for the internship report}) + (0.40 \times \text{grade for the oral presentation of the internship report and active participation in the concluding seminar})$.

The weighted average is then converted into a final course grade as follows:
4.50–5.00 = A; 3.50–4.49 = B; 2.50–3.49 = C; 1.50–2.49 = D; and 1.00–1.49 = E. If the weighted average falls exactly halfway between two grade levels, that is, ends in .50, the higher grade is awarded.

To receive a passing grade (at least E) for the course as a whole, the student must have received at least a passing grade on all assessment components and must have participated in all compulsory components.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have completed at least 45 credits within Master's Programme (120 credits) in Asian Studies, and have proficiency in English equivalent to English 6/B from Swedish upper secondary school.

Further information

- The course is offered at the Department of History, Centre for East and South-East Asian Studies, Lund University.
- A general exemption from the requirement of proficiency in Swedish applies.
- The credits allocated for course content that in whole or in part is commensurate with another course can only be credited once for a degree.
- For further details, see the current registration information and other relevant documentation.