



LUND
UNIVERSITY

School of Economics and Management

INFM10, Informatics: Master Thesis, 15 credits

Informatik: Magisteruppsats, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Informatics on 2013-09-20 and was last revised on 2017-09-06. The revised syllabus applies from 2018-01-15, spring semester 2018.

General Information

The course is mandatory on the second term on the MSc Programme in Information Systems, or can be taken as a separate course.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Information Systems

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1E, Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (60 credits)

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, students shall have acquired in-depth knowledge and skills in planning, implementing, reporting and defending a degree project essay.

Knowledge and understanding

For a pass on the course, students must demonstrate knowledge about and understanding of

- the interaction between different methods and approaches in a research study,
- claims about quality of scientific research,
- influence of scientific approaches and perspectives on scientific issues and the selection of research issues and methods,
- ethical positions with regard to research studies.

Competence and skills

For a pass on the course, students must demonstrate the ability to, individual or in group

- make informed selection of methods for collecting, analyzing and reporting,
- independently design research instrument,
- collect and process data as well as make a scientifically informed interpretation of the findings,
- select and formulate a research question that can provide a clearly discernible contribution to the main area of the programme of study,
- select and apply scientific research method(s),
- plan and carry out a research study within a defined time limit.

Judgement and approach

For a pass on the course, students must demonstrate the ability to

- critically review and assess different research findings and studies,
- assess the relevance of different research questions in the main area of the programme of study,
- critically review and assess ethical aspects in research studies,
- critically review and assess quality aspects in research studies.

Course content

The course deals with

- planning and execution of a research study,
- reporting and presenting the execution and results of an individual research study.

Course design

The teaching includes lectures, seminars and supervision.

The course includes compulsory components, which are stated in the schedule.

Master thesis work is carried out by teams of two students. Students are entitled to thesis supervision during the term the thesis work was commenced. If the thesis is not finalized the term the thesis work was commenced/should have been commenced or the subsequent term, the application for thesis work must be renewed. Master thesis work may be a theoretical-empirical, theoretical, or design science study.

Assessment

The assessment is based on a master's thesis (incl. defence of own thesis and peer review of another master's thesis).

The master's thesis must be written in English and published in LUP student papers.

Regular final seminars for master's thesis are scheduled the term the thesis work was commenced. Two additional seminars take place before the course starts again.

Attendance at final seminar is mandatory unless the examiner of the course instructs

otherwise.

The thesis is graded by teachers appointed by the examiner of the course. These teachers may not grade theses they have supervised.

Academic misconduct such as cheating, plagiarism, fabrication and falsification is considered a serious offence in higher education (see Chapter 10 of the Higher Education Ordinance). The disciplinary measures that may be taken as a result of such offences are caution or suspension for a limited period of time from the university (and all the faculties of the university).

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

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A.

Grade (Definition) Points or percentage out of maximum points. Characteristic.

A (Excellent) 85-100. A distinguished result that is excellent with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

B (Very good) 75-84. A very good result with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

C (Good) 65-74. The result is of a good standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought and lives up to expectations.

D (Satisfactory) 55-64. The result is of a satisfactory standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

E (Sufficient) 50-54. The result satisfies the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought, but not more.

F (Fail) 0-49. The result does not meet the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

To pass the course, the students must have been awarded the grade of E or higher.

Grading rules and definitions

Grades are awarded according to a graded scale from A (highest) to F (lowest), with E as the minimum passing grade.

When the exam/assignment is not graded, the grades G (Pass) or F (Fail) will be applied.

Course grades

When calculating course grades, the graded components will be weighted according to the following formula:

The number of credits for the exam is multiplied with the exam score. The total value is then divided by the total number of credits for the exams/assignments included. The resulting average is then rounded off to the nearest whole number. The number indicates the relevant course grade in accordance with the grading definitions above.

For exams/assignments which are graded and scored, the grades A to F will be used in accordance with the grading definitions above. The exam score will be used directly in

the calculation.

For exams/assignments which are graded but not scored, the grades A to F will be used and converted as follows: A = 92, B = 80, C = 70, D = 60, E = 52.

Exams/assignments which are not graded but awarded with G (Pass) or F (Fail) will not be included in the calculation of the course grade.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, the student must have passed the general requirements, finished a bachelor's degree in informatics/information systems along with 30 second-cycle credits in informatics/information systems or the equivalent. English 6/English B.

An exception for the general entry requirement in Swedish will be granted when the course is given in English.

Further information

INFM10 may not be included in a degree together with INFM03 or an equivalent.

It is compulsory to attend the introduction meeting, where a roll call will be taken. Absence without notification means that the admitted student will lose his/her seat on the course.

For transitional provisions with regard to previous courses, please contact the study advisor for an individual assessment.

If the course is discontinued, there may be limited opportunities for re-examination. Please contact the study advisor for information.

Amendments

2015-12-04: Added that the course includes compulsory components and that attendance on the introduction meeting is compulsory.

2016-06-03: New grading rules from Spring term 2017.

2016-12-02: New reading list from Spring term 2017.

2017-09-06: Updated the learning outcomes, course design and assessment and new set of exams from Spring term 2018.

Subcourses in INFM10, Informatics: Master Thesis

Applies from V18

- 1701 Master's Thesis, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
Master's thesis (incl. defence of own thesis and peer review of another master's thesis). Group of two students.

Applies from V14

- 1301 Master Thesis (incl. peer review of another master thesis), 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A