School of Economics and Management

INFM12, Information Systems: Master Thesis in Information Systems, 15 credits

Informatik: Magisteruppsats i informationssystem, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Informatics on 2025-06-05. The syllabus comes into effect 2025-06-05 and is valid from the spring semester 2026.

General information

The course is compulsory within the Master's Programme in Information Systems.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of study	*Specialisation*
Informatics	A1E, Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (60 credits)
Information Systems	A1E, Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (60 credits)

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall have acquired in-depth knowledge and skills in planning, implementing, reporting and defending a Master's thesis.

Knowledge and understanding

To pass the course, the student must demonstrate knowledge of and understanding of

- key theories, fundamental and current research in information systems relevant to the chosen scientific problem
- methodological foundations of qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods or design-based research in information systems, including their epistemological and ontological assumptions

- qualitative, quantitative and design-based research methods in information systems, including their strengths, limitations and appropriate uses for empirical data collection
- research quality criteria and their role in assessing the reliability of research-based results
- ethical principles and legal frameworks (e.g. data protection legislation) that govern and guide the conduct of research in information systems

Competence and skills

To pass the course, the student must demonstrate competence and skills individually or in groups to

- formulate a coherent, delimited and researchable question in information systems, anchored in relevant scientific literature and justify its relevance
- select and apply one or more research methods for data collection and analysis, and justify the choices
- collect, process and analyse empirical data
- synthesise results with literature or theory to formulate evidence-based arguments and conclusions that develop or challenge existing research
- plan, design and carry out a research study within a limited time frame
- write, present and defend – orally and in writing – a coherent and well-structured scientific report in English according to established academic conventions, and act as an opponent on another master thesis

Judgement and approach

To pass the course, the student must demonstrate the ability to

- assess methodological appropriateness of scientific studies
- assess relevance and feasibility or research questions
- critically assess ethical aspects of research studies
- critically assess quality aspects of 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 consists of lectures, seminars and supervision.

The Master's thesis work is carried out by teams of two students. Supervision is given during the ongoing course instance. Master's thesis work may be a theoretical-empirical, theoretical, or design science study.

Assessment

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

The Master's thesis must be written and presented 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.

The test and course grades are determined by the course examiner. The examiner is entitled to change the grades given by the teachers on the course if this does not violate Chapter 6, Section 24 of the Higher Education Ordinance (1993:100).

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).

Examinations

- Master's Thesis, 15.0 cr, grading scale: U-A, group examination

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.

Grades

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

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.

U (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 student must have been awarded the grade of E or higher.

Grading rules and definitions

Examination grades

Examinations are graded according to the grading scale U-A or the grading scale U-G (Fail-Pass).

Course grade

A passing grade on all examinations is required to pass the course.

1. For each examination with the grading scale U-A, the obtained points are multiplied by the number of credits for the examination. Grades without points are converted as follows: A = 92, B = 80, C = 70, D = 60, E = 52.
2. The products of the included examinations are summed up and divided by the total number of credits of the included examinations.
3. This results in a weighted average which determines the course grade. 85–100 gives the grade A, 75-84 gives the grade B, 65-74 gives the grade C, 55–64 gives the grade D, 50–54 gives the grade E.

Examinations with the grading scale U-G are not included in the calculation of the course grade.

Entry requirements

Admission to the course requires English 6 and a bachelor's degree in informatics/information systems along with 30 second-cycle credits in informatics/information systems and the completed course "Informatics: Research Methods in Information Systems", or the equivalent.

Further information

INFM12 may not be included in a degree together with INFM10 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 their seat on the course.

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

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