



Faculty of Social Sciences

SGEM06, Human Geography: Master's (Two Year) Thesis, 30 credits

*Samhällsgeografi: Examensarbete för masterexamen, 30
högskolepoäng*

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Faculty Board of Social Sciences on 2014-05-15 to be valid from 2015-01-18, spring semester 2015.

General Information

SGEM06 Human Geography: Master's (120 credits) Thesis 30 credits Second cycle

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Human Geography

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A2E, Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits)

Learning outcomes

The course is a compulsory component of the Master's programme in human geography (120 credits). It is also offered as a freestanding course in the main field of human geography. On completion of the course, the student shall be able to demonstrate:

Knowledge and understanding

- knowledge and understanding in human geography, including both broad knowledge of the field and a considerable degree of specialised knowledge in certain areas of the field as well as specialised insight into current research and development work
- specialised methodological knowledge in human geography

Competence and skills

- the ability to apply his or her knowledge, understanding and problem-solving ability to new and unfamiliar contexts of a broad (or multidisciplinary) character within a field associated with human geography
- the ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations even with limited information
- 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 within his or her field in human geography
- 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
- the skills required for participation in research and development work or autonomous employment in some other qualified capacity

Judgement and approach

- the ability to make assessments in human geography informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues and also to demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work
- insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used
- the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning

Course content

The aim of the course is for students to plan, execute and report a research study and to critically review a fellow student's project.

Course design

Teaching is in the form of individual supervision, independent study and seminars. The student is to work independently within a field agreed upon with the supervisor. The research report is to be written by the individual student but collaboration between two students can be permitted in certain circumstances. In such cases, the contribution of the individual student must be clearly specified in the introduction or preface to the study. The student is to defend his or her project and critically review a fellow student's project at a concluding seminar.

Attendance at seminars and supervision sessions is compulsory unless there are special grounds. An alternative form or date for compulsory components is offered to students who are not able to complete a compulsory component owing to circumstances beyond their control, e.g. accident, sudden illness or similar. This also applies to students who have missed teaching because of activities as a student representative.

Assessment

The assessment is based on two components – the student's defence of his or her own project and his or her critical review of a fellow student's project.

Supervision is only offered in the semester for which the student was first registered. Exceptions can be made, if there are special grounds. Re-examination of a degree project will be offered at a later date. A full-text version of the degree project is also to be published online in LUP Student Papers, unless there are valid reasons to the contrary.

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.

The highest grade is A, and the lowest passing grade is E.

The grade for a non-passing result is Fail.

The student's performance is assessed with reference to the learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of E the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of D the student must show satisfactory results. For the grade of C the student must show good results. For the grade of B the student must show very good results. For the grade of A the student must show excellent results. For the grade of Fail the student must have shown unacceptable results.

At the start of the course students are informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and about the grading scale and how it is applied in the course.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course students must have

- a Bachelor's degree in human geography or the equivalent
- passed second-cycle courses in human geography amounting to 30 credits
- passed 15 second cycle credits in GIS (geographical information systems)
- passed 15 second cycle credits in research methods

Oral and written proficiency in English corresponding to English 6/B from Swedish upper secondary school is a requirement.

Further information

The course replaces course SGEM04 Human Geography: Master's (120 credits) Thesis, 30 credits.

Subcourses in SGEM06, Human Geography: Master's (Two Year) Thesis

Applies from V15

1401 Master's (Two Year) Thesis, 30,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A