



Faculty of Social Sciences

UTVM02, Development Studies: Master's (One Year) Thesis, 15 credits

*Utvecklingsstudier: Examensarbete för magisterexamen, 15
höskolepoäng*

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Faculty Board of Social Sciences on 2011-11-17 and was last revised on 2016-05-03 by the board of the Department of Human Geography. The revised syllabus applies from 2016-08-28, autumn semester 2016.

General Information

The course constitutes degree project for Master's degree (60 credits) within the main field of study development studies and have an interdisciplinary specialisation. The course can be read as a freestanding course and occur as alternatives within different degree programme. The course constitutes a part of the fourth semester studies in development studies and may be included in a Master's degree (60 credits) with development studies as main subject.

Language of instruction: Swedish and English

Main field of studies

Development Studies

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, the student should:

Knowledge and understanding

- show advanced knowledge in for development studies relevant theories with special specialisation within a delimited research field,
- show advanced knowledge about methods within social sciences development research,
- show knowledge of scientific communication and be able to supervise the knowledge development within the subject area independently,

Competence and skills

- show ability to identify, integrate, review critically and analyse complex phenomena, issues and phenomena,
- show ability to plan and with appropriate methods carry out qualified assignments within given time frames,
- show ability to communicate results of learning- and research processes both in writing and orally,
- show such skills that is required to participate in research and development or in other qualified activities,
- with high grade of independence identify problems of methodological and ethical nature that is associated with research in developing countries,
- show ability to identify own need of additional knowledge to take responsibility for his knowledge development,

Judgement and approach

- show ability to make assessments within social sciences development research considering relevant scientific, social and ethical aspects in both research and development as other relevant activities,
- demonstrate an understanding in the possibilities and limitations of the scholarship, its role in the society and the responsibility of people for how it is used.

Course content

The education in development studies aims to in an interdisciplinary perspective communicate basic knowledge about developing countries. The course in connection with the degree project aims to give participants advanced insights into problems of a methodological and ethical nature that are associated with research in and around developing countries, as well as give an advanced understanding of current theoretical directions and research fields within development studies and development geography. Through the advanced analysis at work, understanding and knowledge that can be of benefit at international employment are also given or information- and teaching activity.

The principal part of the course consists of the writing an academic paper. In this, strong emphasis is placed at independently to identify and formulate a scientific issue and follow the development and the research within the field that the issue accounts for actively. The other parts of the course consist of seminars where the own work should be presented and defended. Furthermore, the student should publicly discuss on other course participants' work and participate then other course participants' work actively be discussed.

Course design

The teaching consists of seminars and individual supervision according to the rules for assignment and extent of supervision of the department for second-cycle studies. Participation in seminars is compulsory.

Assessment

The assessment of the course is done through a written academic paper, presentation and defense of this on a seminar and a critical review of another student's dissertation.

The academic paper shall be registered in an open access database on a server belonging to Lund University. Students choose level of publication themselves.

Three opportunities for examination are offered in conjunction with the course: a first examination and two re-examinations. Within a year of the end of the course, two further re-examinations on the same course content are offered. After this, further re-examination opportunities are offered but in accordance with the current course syllabus.

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 student's results are assessed from the expected learning outcomes of the course. For the grade E, the student should show a sufficient result. For the grade D, the student should show a satisfactory result. For the grade C, the student should show a good result. For the grade B, the student should show a very good result. For the grade A, the student should show an outstanding result. For the grade failed, the student has shown an insufficient result.

The opposition is exempted from the grading scale. In this case the grades awarded will be Pass or Fail. For the grade of Pass the student must show acceptable results. If a student does not achieve acceptable standards, the student will fail.

At the start of the course, the students about the expected learning outcomes of the course syllabus and about the grading scale and its application are informed in the course.

Entry requirements

For admission to the course, knowledge is required equivalent overview the UTVK01 Development Studies, Bachelor Thesis Course (30 credits) of course or the equivalent.

Subcourses in UTM02, Development Studies: Master's (One Year) Thesis

Applies from V12

1101 Development Studies: Master's (One Year) Thesis, 15,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A