



Faculty of Social Sciences

SASOL, Master of Science Programme in Sociology of Law, 120 credits

Masterprogram i rättssociologi, 120 högskolepoäng

Second cycle degree programme requiring previous university study / *Program med akademiska förkunskapskrav och med slutlig examen på avancerad nivå*

Decision

The programme syllabus is established by Pro dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences 14-03-2019 (U 2019/127) to be valid from 15-10-2019, autumn semester 2020.

Programme description

The Master of Science Programme in Sociology of Law is an interdisciplinary programme aimed at introducing students to the study of law, legal institutions and legal behaviour in a social context. It offers an advanced overview of Sociology of Law with the possibility of specialisation in socio-legal areas, such as criminal justice, criminology, legal cultures, human rights, the legal profession, governance, law and gender, law and globalisation and regulation (in the following, we shall use "socio-legal research" and "sociology of law" interchangeably).

The objective of the programme is to increase the students' knowledge of how the law and legal institutions work at the national and transnational levels and how they impact upon the everyday life of the citizens. The programme will provide the students with the skills they need to critically examine, analyse and evaluate the interplay between socio-legal theory and practice, explore legal developments, and study implementation problems at the national, international and global levels.

These skills will help students to gain the deeper social scientific understanding that is required of those who seek to continue with third-cycle courses and study programmes. They will also enable the students to pursue careers within fields which deal with public and private inquiries, project assessments, and policy evaluation.

Furthermore, the programme will provide students with the vital knowledge required

of those who wish to work as policy-makers, instructors and practitioners who work with issues related to law and legal institutions, the criminal justice system, the EU and EU regulation at the level of regional authorities and government agencies as well as within the private sector (businesses and firms) and the NGOs at both national and international levels.

Goals

Pursuant to the Higher Education Ordinance, for a degree of Master (120 credits and 60 credits respectively) the student shall:

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall

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

For a Degree of Master (60 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the field of Sociology of Law, including both an overview of the field and specialised knowledge in certain areas of the field as well as insight into current research and development work, and
- demonstrate specialised methodological knowledge in the field of Sociology of Law.

Competence and skills

For a Degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations even with limited information
- demonstrate 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 as well as the ability to evaluate this work
- demonstrate 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, and
- demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development work or autonomous employment in some other qualified capacity.

For a Degree of Master (60 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge and analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations even with limited information
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues autonomously as well as

to plan and, using appropriate methods, undertake advanced tasks within predetermined time frames

- demonstrate the ability in speech and writing to report clearly and discuss his or her conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences, and
- demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development work or employment in some other qualified capacity.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall

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

For a Degree of Master (60 credits) the student shall

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

In addition to the outcomes stated in the Higher Education Ordinance, for a degree of Master of Science (120 credits or 60 credits) with a major in Sociology of Law the student shall:

- demonstrate knowledge about scientific channels of communication, and be able to monitor the academic development within their field of study and employ referencing systems, and
- demonstrate an ability to operationalise theoretical and empirical knowledge in sociology of law in order to provide concrete suggestions for law and policy making and its implementation at national and EU level.

Course information

The Master of Science Programme in Sociology of Law comprises a total of 120 credits, including 30 second cycle courses in Sociology of Law, 30 second cycle credits in the theory of Science and methodology (of which at least 7,5 credits in the theory of science and at least 15 in methodology), 30 credits elective courses and a Master's thesis in Sociology of Law ,30 credits.

The first semester begins with an advanced introduction to the sociology of law, which introduces students to classical and modern socio-legal research and theory. This will be the first "profile" course within the programme. (15 credits).

The introductory course is followed by courses (15 credits) in theory of science for

social scientists, or research methods, in which students are encouraged to advance their academic thinking and deepen their understanding of how knowledge is produced and reproduced, and in research methods, which provide the students with the skills required for independent research.

The second semester begins with the second profile course (15 credits) in sociology of law, which directly builds upon the knowledge and skills gained in the first term. While the first profile course emphasised the theoretical and disciplinary development of the subject, this second course in sociology of law focuses on the major research traditions within sociology of law. The students will become familiar with various socio-legal approaches and learn how to plan theoretically informed and methodologically viable studies of law in society. As part of this second course, they will be encouraged to identify a discrete socio-legal problem, which they may further investigate in their Master's thesis.

This course is followed, in the second half of the second term, by courses in theory of science and research methods, each 15 credits.

The third semester consists of elective courses to be taken at Lund University, or at any other recognised university in Sweden, or abroad. It will also be possible to choose an internship (30 credits). The courses are chosen with the approval of the programme coordinator and should enable students to tailor the programme to suit their particular interests and to develop their own specialisation within the field of sociology of law.

The fourth semester the students complete the programme by writing a thesis, which provides them with the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of socio-legal theories, methods, and argumentation.

Additional information in appendix Course information SASOL.

Degree

Degree titles

Degree of Master of Science (60 credits)

Major: Sociology of Law

Filosofie magisterexamen

Huvudområde: Rättssociologi

Degree of Master of Science (120 credits)

Major: Sociology of Law

Filosofie masterexamen

Huvudområde: Rättssociologi

For a degree of Master of Science (120 credits) within the programme, the student must have passed the courses specified under "Course information" (or the equivalent courses at another higher education institution). Of the required 30 course credits in theory of science and research methods, at least 15 credits must be in research methods and 7.5 in theory of science.

It is also possible to acquire a degree of Master of Science (60 credits) with a major in Sociology of Law after completion of the following required courses:

1. Profile course I – Introduction to the sociology of law, 15 credits
2. Theory of science and/or research methods, 15 credits (at least 7,5 credits in research methods)

3. Profile course II – Socio-legal theory and practice, 15 credit
4. Master (One Year) Thesis, 15 credits.

Requirements and Selection method

Requirements

To be eligible for the programme the applicant must have the equivalent of a Swedish Bachelor's degree with a major (i.e. at least 90 ECTS credits) in one of the following social sciences disciplines: Sociology of Law, Sociology, Law, Criminology, Political Science, Social Work or equivalent.

A good command of spoken and written English, equivalent to English 6/B (advanced) proficiency in the Swedish secondary system, is required. Equivalent assessments will be made according to national guidelines

Selection method

The applicants estimated capacity to complete the programme is the primary criterion for selection. Students are selected on the basis of their previous study results (grades on courses and Bachelor's degree essay), proficiency in English and letter of intent.

Transition rules

A student who started the programme no later than the autumn semester 2015 is entitled to be awarded a degree in accordance with the programme syllabus of SASAM:SELA approved 28 October 2010 until the end of August 2018.

Other information

The language of instruction and assessment is English.

Instructions regarding teaching and examination are given in the syllabus for each course respectively.

Appendix

Course information SASOL

The courses are studied in the following order:

Semester	Course	Course
Semester I	Profile course I – Introduction to sociology of law, 15 credits.	Theory of science and/or research methods, 15 credits.
Semester II	Profile course II – Socio-legal theory and practice, 15 credits.	Theory of science and/or research methods, 15 credits.
Semester III	Elective courses, 30 credits (at Lund University or other recognised institutions of higher education), or internship, 30 credits.	
Semester IV	Master's thesis in Sociology of Law, 30 credits.	