



Faculties of Humanities and Theology

## **HAMRS, Masters Programme in Human Rights Studies, 120 credits**

*Masterprogram i mänskliga rättigheter, 120 högskolepoäng*

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

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### **Decision**

The programme syllabus is established by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology 04-10-2018 and most recently amended 01-07-2020 (U2020/428). The amended syllabus is valid from 01-10-2020, autumn semester 2021.

### **Programme description**

The programme has a multidisciplinary humanities profile, combining historical, political, philosophical and legal perspectives to provide an in-depth understanding of and an analytical approach to human rights as the complex phenomenon they are today. The programme deals with human rights not only as an ethical principle or as a basis for legal provisions but as part of the infrastructure of a democratic society. The programme is designed to provide both multidisciplinary breadth and thematic depth. The language of instruction is English.

The first two semesters of the programme include common courses with a focus on concepts, theory, institutions, historiography, methodology, research ethics and project planning. The second module of the second semester of the programme is a thematic, research-based specialisation course with varying content depending on the course session. During the third semester, the students will complete a field studies course consisting of two tracks: either an internship or scientific fieldwork. The fourth semester is devoted to degree project work.

On completion of the programme, the students will have developed knowledge, skills and approaches for qualified professional activities in the field of human rights. The

programme also prepares students for research studies.

The programme provides both international and intercultural expertise. The programme is conducted in an international environment. The subject matter of the programme focuses on international issues and problems, as well as on the interaction between international, regional and national conditions. One of the functions of the concept of human rights is being an intercultural bridge and offering tools for change and communication between languages and cultures. Through the programme, the students will acquire the skill to use and critically reflect on this function.

## Goals

For a degree of Master, the students shall

### Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of human rights studies, including both broad knowledge in the field in general and highly specialised knowledge in certain areas of the field in particular, as well as deep insight into current research and development work,
- demonstrate advanced knowledge of methodology in the main field of human rights studies,

### Competence and skills

- demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge critically and systematically, and to analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations, even with limited information,
- demonstrate the ability critically, autonomously and creatively to identify and formulate issues, plan and adequately implement qualified tasks within given time frames, thereby contributing to the development of knowledge, and to evaluate this work,
- demonstrate the ability, in both national and international contexts, to express and discuss clearly in speech and in writing their conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different groups,
- demonstrate the skills required to participate in research and development work or to work independently in other qualified activities,

### Judgement and approach

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments based on relevant scientific, societal and ethical aspects within the main field of human rights studies, and demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work,
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and people's responsibility for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify their need for further knowledge and to take responsibility for their knowledge development.

## Course information

### Compulsory courses for the programme as a whole

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Human Rights in the Global World: Agents, Indicators, and Institutions (15 credits)

Human Rights in the History of Politics and Philosophy (15 credits)

Human Rights in Practice: Research Methods, Research Ethics, and Project Management (15 credits)

Field Studies (30 credits)

Degree Project (30 credits)

### **Elective courses**

During the second semester, the student choose elective thematic specialisation courses corresponding 15 credits, and a compulsory method course. The thematic specialisation courses shall be in the main field of study Human Rights Studies and offered by the division of Human Rights Studies.

Filed course (30 credits) can in exceptional cases be replaced by elective courses.

### **Schematic layout of the courses in the academic year**

#### **Semester 1**

- Human Rights in the Global World: Agents, Indicators, and Institutions (15 credits)
- Human Rights in the History of Politics and Philosophy (15 credits)

#### **Semester 2**

- Human Rights in Practice: Research Methods, Research Ethics, and Project Management (15 credits)
- Thematic Specialisation courses (15 credits). These courses shall be research-based and are offered by the division of Human Rights Studies. The content may vary between different course sessions.

#### **Semester 3**

- Field Studies (30 credits) This module contains two tracks: either scientific fieldwork or internship. In exceptional cases the student can choose elective courses, relevant for the field of study.

#### **Semester 4**

- Degree Project (30 credits)

### **Degree**

Degree titles

Degree of Master of Arts (120 credits)

Major: Human Rights Studies

*Filosofie masterexamen*

*Huvudområde: Mänskliga rättigheter*

### **Requirements and Selection method**

#### **Requirements**

A Bachelor's degree with a major in human rights or other relevant major in the

humanities, social sciences, law, or the equivalent. English Level 6.

Applicants with a Bachelor's degree in a subject other than Human Rights Studies must demonstrate that they have sufficient knowledge of the subject through specialisation or a degree project.

### **Selection method**

Overall, the selection is based on an assessment of the applicants' suitability and expected ability to benefit from the programme. The following selection criteria are applied to the applicants who meet the admission requirements:

- The applicant's proficiency in English, orally and in writing. If English is not the applicant's native language, their language proficiency is to be demonstrated by e.g. IELTS test, TOEFL test, Cambridge/Oxford test, a Bachelor's degree from a study programme taught entirely in English, or a passing grade in English B from Swedish upper-secondary school.
- Grades from courses with content of relevance to the programme. A letter of intent in which the applicant describes their qualifications, academic and professional aspirations and explains why this makes them suitable for the programme. Two letters of recommendation in English from people who are familiar with and capable of assessing the applicant's academic abilities.