Master Programme in Sociology of Education
2017/2018

Education, and the way students should be educated, is a heavily debated and political subject. The Master Programme in Sociology of Education focuses on the analysis of what education really is and what functions it fulfils. As a student in the programme, you will acquire the means to make independent and advanced analyses of education as a social phenomenon, shaped by historical, cultural and economic conditions. It will prepare you for a career in research or the area of education administration.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME
In the Master Programme in Sociology of Education at Uppsala University, education – in the broad sense of the word – is explored as a social phenomenon. It is related to the overall social structure and to social transformations, such as processes of globalisation, individualisation, marketisation and privatisation. A focal point is the encounter between the symbolic or material assets held by pupils and school teachers or students and professors, as well as their embodied dispositions and beliefs, and the prevailing social and cultural order in the educational system.

Other important areas of study are the rise and transformation of educational systems, the history of and competition between educational institutions, the significance of education for the class structure and the relation that education upholds with cultural, economic or political fields. As a discipline, sociology of education is based on more general traditions in social and historical sciences.

DEGREE
The programme leads to a Master of Arts (120 credits) with Sociology of Education as the main field of study. After one year of study it is also possible to obtain a Master of Arts (60 credits).

INSTRUCTION
The courses offered in the programme have a foundation in empirical research, theory and critical reasoning, with active researchers as teachers and supervisors. International guest researchers with an expertise in various fields within or connected to sociology of education are invited to lecture or give courses.

Through a combination of lectures, seminars, regular written assignments with feedback from lecturers, seminars, oral
The programme comprises four core courses in Sociology of Education equivalent to 30 credits. While two core courses address theoretical and methodological traditions relevant to sociology of education, the other two include a historically oriented course on the rise and development of educational systems and another course focusing on their current transformations.

In addition, four more specialised courses in Sociology of Education are offered yearly and may be included in the studies leading to a Master’s degree according to your study orientation. These courses vary between years, since their content is connected to ongoing research and to visits by international researchers in the area.

You are also encouraged to take courses at advanced level relevant to Sociology of Education that are provided by other disciplines at Uppsala University or other universities in Sweden or abroad. In relation to the Master’s thesis work, courses and fieldwork can be carried out abroad, in particular at universities and research environments with which close collaboration is upheld.

For a Master’s degree, at least 60 credits in Sociology of Education is required, including your 30 credits Master’s thesis.

COURSES WITHIN THE PROGRAMME

Core courses in Sociology of Education:
- Sociology of Education, Traditions, 7.5 credits
- Sociology of Education, Methods, 7.5 credits
- Current Transformations of Educational Systems, 7.5 credits
- The History of Educational Systems, 7.5 credits
- Master’s Thesis in Sociology of Education, 30 credits

Additional courses in Sociology of Education:
- Geometric Data Analysis, 7.5 credits
- Histories of Modern Societies: Contextualizing Education, 1800–2000, 7.5 credits
- Nordic Fields of Higher Education, 7.5 credits
- Pierre Bourdieu’s Sociology of Education, 7.5 credits
- Sociology of Power, Elites and Elite Education, 7.5 credits
- Transnational Educational Strategies, 7.5 credits

CAREER

In contemporary society, education assumes a key role and is also crucial for how countries cope with global competition. During the last half century, education systems have expanded dramatically and more people than ever are engaged in some kind of educational training. This expansion, along with decentralisation and deregulation in terms of governance, have made the landscape of education programmes and institutions increasingly complex, both at national and international levels. As a consequence, there is a demand for well-informed, analytically advanced knowledge of education, both within the education system itself and in organisations and knowledge-oriented companies.

The Master Programme in Sociology of Education prepares you for a professional career where such knowledge is particularly important. The programme opens the door to the PhD programme in Sociology of Education and to future positions in academia as a teacher or researcher, as well as to professions related to planning, design, organisation, administration and evaluation of education.
MASTER PROGRAMME IN SOCIOLOGY OF EDUCATION

120 credits

Autumn 2017 100% Campus

Location: Uppsala

Application Deadline: 2016-01-15

Enrolment Code: UU-M4311

Language of Instruction: English

Requirements:

Academic requirements

A Bachelor’s degree, equivalent to a Swedish Kandidatexamen, from an internationally recognised university.

Also required is 90 credits in the humanities or social sciences.

Language requirements

All applicants need to verify English language proficiency. This is normally attested by an internationally recognised test such as TOEFL or IELTS with the following minimum scores:

- IELTS: an overall mark of 6.5 and no section below 5.5
- TOEFL: Paper-based: Score of 4.5 (scale 1–6) in written test and a total score of 575. Internet-based: Score of 20 (scale 0–30) in written test and a total score of 90
- Cambridge: CAE, CPE

Exemptions for students from certain countries.

Selection: Students are selected based on:

- a total appraisal of quantity and quality of previous university studies;
- the relevance of previous studies;
- the quality of the Bachelor’s thesis or equivalent essay (c. 8000 words); and
- a statement of purpose.

The statement of purpose must include a description of your previous university studies, your academic interests, your future plans, and the reason you are interested in the Master’s programme. The statement of purpose must be written in English. Send the thesis and the statement of purpose no later than 2 February 2017 to:

Uppsala University
Department of Education
Box 2136
SE-750 02 Uppsala, Sweden

Please mark your envelope ‘Master Programme in Sociology of Education’.

Fees: If you are not a citizen of a European Union (EU) or European Economic Area (EEA) country, or Switzerland, you are required to pay application and tuition fees. Read more about fees.

Application Fee: SEK 900

Tuition fee, first semester: SEK 50000

Tuition fee, total: SEK 200000
For programme-specific information, please contact the study counsellors: studievagledare@edu.uu.se

For general information about Master’s studies at Uppsala University, please send an email to: masterprogrammes@uu.se