



Master's Programme in Asian Studies

2020-2022 | STUDENT INFORMATION



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Programme information

The programme comprises a total of 120 credits divided into courses of 6, 7.5, 12, and 15 credits each, and a Master's thesis of 30 credits. The programme consists of obligatory and elective advanced courses in the field of Asian Studies.

The first semester begins with a course introducing the students to Asian Studies, and the main challenges and theoretical concepts used in area studies and interdisciplinary studies. This course is followed by two thematic courses discussing the major economic and political issues in East and South-East Asia.

The second semester consists of one course either on contemporary Japan/Korea, or China, or South-East Asia as well as a course on research methodology.

During the third semester you study three elective courses (7.5 credits each) either at the Centre or another institution at Lund University, or at another approved university in Sweden or abroad. The elective courses are chosen after approval by the Director of Studies, and enable you to tailor the programme to suit your particular research interests. The last course of the third semester is a mandatory course on Data Collection and Analysis.

During the fourth semester, you concentrate entirely on your thesis. You collect material, possibly through field work in Asia, either on your own or with the support of one of our partner universities, and you submit your thesis at the end of the semester.

[You can find more detailed information about the courses here.](#)

The programme progresses and the courses become more specialised over time, requiring higher levels of critical and analytical skills. Thus the courses are studied in the following order:

FIRST SEMESTER (30 CREDITS)

- Asian Studies (6 credits)
- The Economic Transformation of East and South-East Asia (12 credits)
- Political Systems, Governance and Democratization in East and South-East Asia (12 credits)

SECOND SEMESTER (30 CREDITS)

- Courses on China, Japan/Korea, South-East Asia (15 credits)
- Research Methodology in Theory and Practice (15 credits)

THIRD SEMESTER (30 CREDITS)

- Elective course 1 (7.5 credits)
- Elective course 2 (7.5 credits)
- Elective course 3 (7.5 credits)
- Data Collection and Analysis (7.5 credits)

FOURTH SEMESTER (30 CREDITS)

- Master's Thesis (30 credits)



Studying at the Centre

LOCATION

The Centre is located on Sölvegatan 18B. [For more contact information and a map, please click here.](#)

Most lectures and seminars take place at the Centre, where we have a library, a lecture room and a seminar room. In the building there is also a student kitchen with microwaves, fridge, freezer and coffee machine. You will have access to the building Monday - Friday, 09.00 - 17.00.

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic there will be special measures taken at the Centre. This include limits on number of students in each class room and in the student kitchen. Many of the larger classes will take place in the library, with safe distance between each student. It is important that you follow the instructions posted in the Centre. For regular updates see the [Centre's web site](#) as well as [Lund University's Covid-19 information pages](#)

STUDENT ENROLMENT

Students who have been accepted into the programme only have the right to enrol from the semester stated in the letter of acceptance. If you cannot enter the programme on the given date you can have your place deferred but you need to submit an application to the Director of Studies specifying the reasons for such a deferral. If granted, the deferral cannot be longer than one year.

If you want to take a pause in your studies you need to apply to the Director of Studies specifying the reasons for such a pause. If you do not apply for a pause in your studies you will be regarded as having terminated your studies and will lose your place in the programme. If you have ended your studies without notifying the Director of Studies you can only be re-accepted into the programme if there is a vacancy. In such a case the previous record of studies can be taken into account.

COURSE INFORMATION

The first course will be given on campus at the Centre with some of the components being online. To ensure a good and safe study environment during Covid-19 we closely follow new developments and the Swedish public health authorities' recommendations, as well as decisions made by Lund University, and therefore the mode of teaching may be different for courses later in the fall.

All course information, including course plans, schedules, literature, teachers, exams, and other relevant information, is found on the course page [CANVAS](#) (the learning platform used by the Centre) to which all registered students have access. CANVAS also enables students to e-mail each other and their teachers.

Academic achievements (the student workload) at Lund University (and in Sweden) are measured according to the Swedish credit system. One and a half credit equals approximately one week of full-time studies. Thus, after one normal semester of successful full-time studies (participating according to requirements and passing the examinations) you are awarded 30 credits (ECTS). Courses at the Centre usually consist of 6, 7.5, 12 or 15 credits each. Courses are always taken sequentially with the result that there are no over-lapping courses. The majority of the courses are obligatory but some courses during the second and third semesters are elective.

CANVAS is the learning platform used by the Centre. Please have a look at [the student guide on how to use Canvas](#) to learn more about this platform.



TEACHERS

The majority of the teachers in the programme are based at the Centre and have their offices in the building. Teachers and staff are available during visiting hours or by appointment.

EXAMS AND GRADINGS

For information about course exams for respective courses, look at the course page on CANVAS. In general exams consist of seminar papers and a final home assignment. Participation at the seminars is usually compulsory and you are expected to be active in discussions and presentations. If you have failed an exam you will be given a second exam opportunity a few weeks later. A further exam opportunity regarding courses completed during the past academic year will be offered in August. The grades awarded are A, B, C, D, E or Fail (U). The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. The grade for a non-passing result is Fail (U).

CHEATING, PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC WRITING

The purpose of the master programme is to train you in your ability to work independently and critically. Exams and assignments involve elements of responsibility and trust. Your work must be original and a result of your own analytical skills and intellectual efforts. All cited sources must be referenced clearly. Cutting and pasting from the Internet is not permitted, although Internet sources can be cited if referenced. If you hand in an assignment or take-home exam that to a large part consists of material cut and pasted from the Internet or quotes texts authored by others without references it is considered as intentional deception. Copying from other students, helping someone to cheat and letting a fellow student copy your texts are other examples of intentional deception. If you intentionally try to deceive the examiner you will be reported to Lund University's Disciplinary Board and will be subjected to disciplinary action.

During the introduction to the programme you will be provided with information on the principles and guidelines for academic writing. You will also be given a hand-out on academic writing.

The Centre uses an Internet tool, Urkund, to check all seminar papers/home assignments/theses, etc. for cheating and plagiarism.

ABSENCE FROM CLASS

If you cannot attend a lecture or seminar you should always e-mail and inform the course-director that you will be absent.

STUDENT SERVICES AT THE CENTRE

[Nina Brand](#) handles most administrative tasks concerning the students. This includes student registration, proofs of study, course certificates, ladok transcripts etc. Visit by appointment.

[Sidsel Hansson](#) offers study guidance and can be of assistance if you need help with supporting measures such as studying techniques as well student counselling. Visit by appointment.

The Director of Studies, [Marina Svensson](#), is responsible for student admission and other issues related to the master programme. Visit by appointment.

LADOK - a national system for study administration within higher education in Sweden. Used for documentation of students academic information such as course registration, examinations and grades, student exchange etc.



Asia Library

The Asia Library is part of [the Libraries of the Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology](#) and is located in the middle of the Centre for East and South-East Asian Studies.

The library has computers (log in using your student account) and a photocopier/scanner/printer. Inside the library there is also a quiet reading room as well as spaces for group work.

During opening hours, library staff are available and can support you on issues concerning information retrieval, databases and interlibrary loans etc. You can also book a librarian if you need help finding information for your studies. At the beginning of the semester there is an introduction to the library services, with more detailed information provided after you have settled in. [Read more about the Asia library.](#)

You can apply for a library account (free of charge) that entitles you to borrow books at the Asia library and at all the other 25 Lund University libraries. You apply online and you need to activate your LU card (see next page), which is used as a library card, within 14 days at one of [the LU libraries](#).

COURSE BOOKS

Through the Asia library you will be able to access all the course literature. You can borrow most of the course books for two weeks at a time.

THE DIGITAL LIBRARY

With your student account you have access to databases, e-books and e-journals at the Lund University libraries from any electronic device. The best way to access the material is through [LUBsearch](#), a collective entry point to all the libraries' joint resources.

To help you find information, your subject librarians have created a subject guide especially for you. In the guide you will find special links to journals, databases etc. concerning Asia as well as information about methods, academic integrity, and how to write and cite.

[Please see the Asian Studies - Subject Guide for Students](#)



Being a student at Lund University

STUDENT ACCOUNT

The [student account](#) gives you access to a number of electronic services that Lund University offers its students; among other things, you can use it to log in to the Student Portal and your web mail.

STUDENT PORTAL

[The Student Portal](#) is your personal page where you can access many electronic and administrative student services. You log in to the portal using your student account. You can use the Student Portal to check your academic results, download software, pay tuition fees (if you are required to pay a tuition fee) and more.

THE LU CARD

All Lund University students must have an [LU card](#) in order to have access to university premises. The LU card has several functions: ID card within Lund University, access card for all buildings you need for your studies and borrowing card for all the university libraries. You can obtain a LU card from one of several card stations around the University.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTRE (ASC)

[The Academic Support Centre \(ASC\)](#) is a free service open to all students studying courses and programmes conducted in English and provide individual and group consultations, workshops, and seminars on topics in three areas: the academic writing process, speaking and presentations skills, and reading and study skills.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

If you have a disability, for example dyslexia, a visual impairment or ADHD, you may have the right to support during your studies. In order to receive support, you must have a certificate stating that your disability is long-term or permanent. At Lund University the following forms of learning support is offered:

- Note-taking
- Special arrangements for exams
- Study skills tuition
- Talking books
- Study support mentor

[For more information please see information on the Accessibility Services web site.](#)

STUDENT RIGHTS

Student rights may involve things such as student participation, students' work environment, how to conduct exams and degree projects and much more. Your rights and responsibilities as a student towards the University and your department are governed by university policies and national laws and regulations. [For more information on student right please see here.](#)



The AF (Academic Society) building

Student organisations

STUDENTLUND

[Studentlund](#) consists of [the student nations](#), [the Academic Society](#) and [the student unions](#). When you become a member of Studentlund you receive access to a social community and cultural events. You also receive the opportunity to influence your education, network with potential future employers, get placed in the housing queue and much more.

STUDENT NATIONS

The [nations](#) organise social activities outside of studies. The majority of the nations' activities consist of catering, pubs and nightclubs, but also include sports activities, newspapers, choirs, scholarships and housing. To get access to a specific nation's housing you must be a member of that particular nation.

ACADEMIC SOCIETY (AF)

[The Academic Society \(AF\)](#) is a non-profit organization run by and for students with the goal to assemble and broaden the cultural and societal life at Lund University. Located at AF-Borgen, AF enables both associations and individuals to host events, big and small, which contribute to enriching the student life at Lund University.

STUDENT UNION

At Lund University each faculty has a [student union](#). The student unions guarantee high quality in education at the university by monitoring education and organizing student influence through some 1 000 posts at all levels within the university. In addition to monitoring education, the unions arrange social activities, career fairs, lectures and welcome activities for new students.

As a student in the Master's Programme in Asian Studies your student union is [the Student Union for Humanities and Theology](#).

Contact information

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