



JÖNKÖPING UNIVERSITY  
*School of Education and Communication*

PROGRAMME SYLLABUS  
**International Communication (Two Years), 120 credits**

Programmestart: Autumn 2018



## PROGRAMME SYLLABUS

### **International Communication (Two Years), 120 credits**

*International Communication (Two Years), 120 högskolepoäng*

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**Programme code:** LAI28

**Programmestart:** Autumn 2018

**Confirmed by:** Dean 2017-10-19

**Education Cycle:** Second-cycle level

**Version:** 1

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#### **Title of qualification**

Degree of Master of Social Science (120 credits) with a major in Media and Communication Science

#### **Programme overview**

The master's programme International Communication (Two Years) provides a deepened education in the field of media and communication for students already holding a bachelor's degree and having a substantial amount of media and communication studies or the equivalent in their undergraduate studies. The master's programme prepares students for the possibilities to apply for further education on third cycle, i.e. doctoral programmes. One academic year consists of 40 study weeks, divided in two semesters. This is equivalent to 60 credits (60 hp). Each study week consists of 1.5 credits (1,5 hp) which is equivalent to 40 hours of study.

The programme focuses on international communication, which means that mediated communication across nations, as well as the relationship between globalisation and media and communication, is emphasized. The programme also centres on the relationship between media and communication and different aspects of sustainability.

Scientific methods are taught with the aim of deepening the student's knowledge on methods in the social sciences and the humanities as well as to develop a reflexive scientific approach. Two 15-credit thesis courses are offered; one in the second semester and one in the fourth semester. The theses in the programme should cover a topic within media and communication in an international context.

The programme consists of seven mandatory 7.5 or 15-credits courses (in total 90 credits) held over three semesters. One semester, 30 credits, consists of eligible courses at Jönköping University or in collaboration with other universities abroad. Each course offered at Jönköping University has its own syllabus with specific prerequisites. The organisation of the courses follows a logic progression. All courses offered within the program are taught in English.

#### **Objectives**

##### *General aims*

Second cycle education shall essentially build on the knowledge students acquire in first cycle education or corresponding knowledge. Second cycle education shall involve a deepening of knowledge, skills and abilities relative to first cycle education and, in addition to what applies to

first cycle education, shall;

- further develop the students' ability to independently integrate and use knowledge
- develop the students' ability to deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations
- develop the students' potential for professional activities that demand considerable independence or for research and development work

### *Programme-specific learning outcomes*

The specific learning outcomes for the programme are based on the objective to deepen the student's knowledge in media and communication, especially regarding mediated communication in a global context, as well as the role of mediated communication for different forms of sustainability. After fulfilling the programme, the student will be better prepared for working with communication tasks in an international context, or for continuing to study on a doctoral level.

In addition to the learning outcomes stated in the Higher Education Ordinance (SFS) No. 2006:1053, the student shall:

### *Knowledge and Understanding*

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in media and communication science, which includes a broad knowledge in media and communication science as well as substantial insights in communication related needs and challenges in an international perspective as well as in relation to sustainability
- demonstrate a deepened understanding in current research and development work, especially regarding media and communication in an international perspective and in relation to sustainability
- demonstrate deepened methodological knowledge in media and communication science

### *Skills and Abilities*

- demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge critically and systematically and to analyse, assess and handle complex phenomena, research problems and situations related to media and communication, even with limited information
- demonstrate the ability to critically, independently and creatively identify and formulate research problems as well as to plan and, using appropriate methods, undertake advanced tasks regarding media and communication within predetermined time frames, and by so doing contribute to the development of knowledge within the field and also to evaluate the conducted work
- demonstrate the ability in speech and writing, in national and international contexts, to report clearly and discuss his or her conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences
- demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development work or employment in some other qualified capacity

### *Judgement and Approach*

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in media and communication science informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues and demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work
- evaluate how different forms of communication interplay with specific relations of power and to problematise different forms of communication from a sustainability point of view

- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used
- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning

## Contents

### *Mandatory Courses*

#### Semester 1

Global Media Cultures, 15 credits

Sustainable Communication, 15 credits

#### Semester 2

Media and Communication Research Methods, 15 credits

Master Thesis in Media and Communication Science with Specialization in International Communication, 15 credits

#### Semester 3

Elective courses, 30 credits

Within the programme the following courses are offered:

Visual Culture Media Project, 7.5 credits

International Media Law and Regulations, 7.5 credits

International Communication Work Placement, 7.5 credits

Global Crisis Communication, 7.5 credits

Students could also choose to apply for an exchange semester at one of the partner universities or to study other courses at JU or another HEI in Sweden. Students can choose between courses on undergraduate or graduate level during Semester 3.

#### Semester 4

Contemporary Media and Communication Theory, 7.5 credits

Advanced Perspectives in Research Methodology, 7.5 credits

International Communication Master Degree Project, 15 credits

## Teaching and examination

To pass a course, the student needs to fulfil all the course requirements. Examination takes place in the form of written exams, oral exams or term papers. Different methods of examination can be used within a single course. The student will be offered at least three examination opportunities in each examination period. The university is not obligated to offer re-exams in courses that a student already has passed. Mandatory workshops and assignments can exist within a course.

The courses within the programme are graded A-F or Pass (C)/Fail (FX/F). A-E all constitute Pass and FX and F are equal to Fail.

For most workshops and mandatory group assignments, only Pass (C) or Fail (FX/F) is given.

## Prerequisites

The applicant must hold the minimum of a bachelor's degree (i.e. the equivalent of 180 ECTS credits at an accredited university) with at least 90 ECTS credits in media and communication studies, including independent, theoretical based work, i.e. a thesis or the equivalent. English 6/English B in the Swedish upper secondary school system or international equivalent.

### **Continuation Requirements**

The following requirements need to be met:

For students to proceed to the second semester within the program: The student must not fall behind more than 15 credits.

For students to proceed to the fourth semester within the programme: The student must fulfill at least 60 credits from the programme, including 15 credits thesis writing.

### **Qualification Requirements**

To obtain the Master of Social Science (120 credits) with a major in Media and Communication Science, the student must complete the course requirements of at least 120 credits at the higher education level that were not used for the bachelor's degree, with at least 90 credits overall in second-cycle courses and at least 60 of those second-cycle credits in Media and Communication Science, including a 30-credit master's thesis or two 15-credit master's theses in Media and Communication Science.

Requirements to complete the programme are (1) completing the requirements for the Master of Social Science (120 credits) with a major in Media and Communication Science and (2) completing all courses that are listed as mandatory courses in the Contents section, or their equivalent.

The degree certificate will be issued after formal application from student.

### **Quality Development**

The programme is evaluated at the end of the second semester as well as at the end of the fourth semester.

This evaluation work is carried out in collaboration between students and the programme director. Each course is also evaluated according to the regulations and guidelines for first-, second- and third-cycle education at Jönköping University.

### **Other Information**

The programme aims for an equal share between Swedish and International students in order to obtain the best multicultural student environment as possible. The programme is collaborating with the research programme in Media and Communication Science at the School of Education and Communication at Jönköping University. The programme has a specific ambition to collaborate with strategic partner universities in order to develop multicultural perspectives within the field.