



JÖNKÖPING UNIVERSITY  
*School of Education and Communication*

PROGRAMME SYLLABUS  
**International Communication (Two Years), 120 credits**  
Programmestart: Autumn 2016



## PROGRAMME SYLLABUS

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

*International Communication (Two Years), 120 högskolepoäng*

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**Programme code:** LAIK6

**Programmestart:** Autumn 2016

**Confirmed by:** Dean 2015-11-09

**Education Cycle:** Second-cycle level

**Version:** 1

**Reg number:** HLK 2015/4042-312, VD-beslut 15/099

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#### **Title of qualification**

Degree of Master of Social Science (120 credits) with a major in Media and Communications 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, journalism or an equivalent major 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 has a focus on international communication, which involves a special emphasis on global processes of communication on different levels as well as on communication in different cultural settings. The programme also has a specific focus on sustainable communication from a global perspective.

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 communications 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 goals*

Specific learning goals for the programme are the following: to prepare students for work in an international context and to prepare them to be aware of the special conditions within this context. One long-term objective with the programme is that the students' knowledge will contribute to a better understanding in society regarding the relationship between globalization and different aspects of intercultural communication, multiculturalism, sustainability and social responsibility.

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

#### *Knowledge and Understanding*

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in media and communication science, including both a broad overview of the field's current research and development, and specialised knowledge in intercultural and global communication perspectives, as well as insights of global sustainable communication aspects
- demonstrate specialised methodological knowledge in media and communication science

#### *Skills and Abilities*

- demonstrate the ability to identify, and to critically and systematically integrate knowledge needed for understanding communicative processes and expectations through an international perspective
- demonstrate the ability to integrate theories and methods within international communication
- critically analyse and assess complex phenomena, problems and situations
- demonstrate the ability to identify and creatively formulate problems autonomously as well as to plan and, using appropriate methods, undertake advanced communication tasks within predetermined time frames
- demonstrate, in intercultural contexts, the ability to clearly and independently report his or her conclusions, and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based, in speech and writing and in dialogue with different audiences
- demonstrate required skills for participation in work concerning research and development

#### *Judgement and Approach*

- demonstrate the ability to relate professional actions to the basic values of multicultural communication
- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in media and communication science informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical questions 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
- identify needs 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, 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 Perspectives, 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.

All courses will be graded according to the ECTS system. 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**

Bachelor's degree (equivalent of 180 ECTS credits at an accredited university) with at least 60 credits in media and/or communication studies, journalism, or the equivalent. English proficiency is required.

**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 third semester within the program: The students must fulfil both mandatory courses on the second semester.

For students to proceed to the fourth semester within the program: The students must fulfil at least one 15-credit course from the first semester, both mandatory courses on the second semester, and at least courses equivalent to 15 credits on the third semester.

**Qualification Requirements**

To obtain the Master of Social Science (120 credits) with a major in Media and Communications 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 Communications Science, including a 30-credit master's thesis or two 15-credit master's theses in Media and Communications 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 Communications 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.