



Faculty of Economy, Communication and IT

Programme Study Plan

Master's Level Education in Business Administration

Programme Code	SAFEK
Programme Specializations:	Accounting and Finance (REFI) Management (MANT) Marketing (MARF) Service Management (SEMA)
Programme Title:	Master Programme in Business Administration
Credits/ECTS:	60/120
Programme Approval	The Programme Study Plan was approved by the Faculty Board for Economy, Communication and IT on 27 May 2010 and is valid from the autumn semester of 2010 at Karlstad University.
Language of Instruction:	English
Degree Level:	Master
Degree Type:	General
Prerequisites	Bachelor's Degree of 180 ECTS credits with a major in Business Administration (90 ECTS credits), or equivalent. Upper Secondary English course B or equivalent.

Introduction

The programme offers students the opportunity for further study in some areas of Business Administration such as Accounting and Finance, Management, Marketing or

Service Management. Students choose one of these specialisations, which are described below. In addition, the students may combine business administration courses and other subject courses to create their own degree, which can be a one-year Master or a two-year Master.

Aims and Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

To earn a Master's degree (one year), students should be able to demonstrate

- knowledge and understanding of business administration, including a broad command of the field and deeper knowledge of selected areas,
- insight into current research and development, and
- deeper knowledge of theory and method in business administration.

To earn a Master's degree (two years), students should, in addition, be able to demonstrate

- highly specialised knowledge in certain areas of business administration.

Skills and abilities

To earn a Master's degree (one year), students should be able to demonstrate

- the ability to integrate knowledge and to analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, problems and situations, even when having access only to a limited amount of background information,
- the ability to work independently in identifying and formulating problems, and the ability to plan and carry out tasks and assignments within a given deadline,
- the ability to communicate and interact with various groups in presenting and discussing information and conclusions both orally and in writing, and
- the skills required to take active part in research and development or to work in other qualified areas.

To earn a Master's degree (two years), students should, in addition, be able to demonstrate

- the ability to integrate knowledge critically and systematically,
- the ability to identify and formulate economic issues critically, independently and creatively, and
- the ability to carry out advanced tasks so as to contribute to the development of knowledge and to evaluate the work.

Attitude and assessment abilities

To earn a Master's degree (one year) and a Master's degree (two years), students should be able to demonstrate

- the ability to make appropriate judgements in the field of business administration with respect to relevant scientific, societal and ethical aspects, and an awareness of ethical issues in research and development,
- insight into the possibilities and limitations of scientific research, the role of science in society, and our responsibility for its use,
- the ability to identify their own need for further knowledge and training.

Programme Structure

Depending on the student's choice of degree, the course of study varies as follows:

Degree of Master (One Year)

- Business Administration at master level, 15 ECTS credits
- Methodology, 15 ECTS credits
- Business Administration at master level, 15 ECTS credits
- Degree Project, 15 ECTS credits

Degree of Master (Two Years)

- Business Administration at master level, 15 ECTS credits
- Methodology, 15 ECTS credits
- Business Administration at master level, 15 ECTS credits
- Elective, 15 ECTS credits
- Business Administration at master level or electives, 30 ECTS credits
- Degree Project, 30 ECTS credits

Students who wish to obtain the one-year Master's must declare this choice in the first term as the degree project is carried out in the second term. A student who has completed a degree project for the one-year Master's degree may be assessed for credit towards the two-year Master's degree of 30 ECTS cr. and the project is thus a continuation of the previous project.

The programme comprises mandatory courses that define the chosen specialisation. In addition, there are opportunities to choose courses in business administration and other subjects in accordance with the programme structure indicated above. Much can be gained by studying portions of the programme abroad and thus enhance the international profile. Credits earned for elective courses at Bachelor's (first) level must not exceed 30 ECTS credits in the two-year Master's degree.

Programme courses are characterised by independent tasks providing the skills and abilities described in the programme objectives. Instruction has an emphasis on seminars based on written and oral presentations. There are also lectures and exercises. Professional contact is maintained through guest lecturers and other forms of cooperation with industry and public agencies.

Programme Curriculum

Depending on the student's choice of specialisation, a number of mandatory core courses of at least 30 ECTS cr. are included. These are offered in the first half of the autumn term (ht) or the spring term (vt) every academic year. Mandatory specialisation courses are:

Accounting and Finance

Auditing, 7.5 ECTS cr. (ht)
 International Financial Accounting, 7.5 ECTS cr. (ht)
 Corporate Governance, 7.5 ECTS cr. (vt)
 Financial Risk Management, 7.5 ECTS cr. (vt)

Management

Management Accounting, 7.5 ECTS cr. (ht)
 Business in a Sustainable Society, 7.5 ECTS cr. (ht)
 Management and Leadership, 7.5 ECTS cr. (vt)
 Corporate Governance, 7.5 ECTS cr. (vt)

Marketing

Business Marketing, 15 ECTS cr. (ht)
 International Marketing, 15 ECTS cr. (vt)

Service Management

Service Management and Marketing, 15 ECTS cr. (ht)
 Management and Leadership, 7.5 ECTS cr. (vt)
 Corporate Governance, 7.5 ECTS cr. (vt)

Students who start Service Management specialisation in the autumn term can choose the following courses in their third term:

Value Creation through Service, 7.5 ECTS cr. (ht)
 Service Innovation, 7.5 ECTS cr. (ht)
 Human Resources and Development, 7.5 ECTS cr. (ht)
 Service Simulations, 7.5 ECTS cr. (ht)

All the above courses can, when offered, be taken as third term electives. Students who study mandatory courses at another university in Sweden or abroad must secure the approval of the programme director.

The aims and content of each course are stated in the respective course syllabus. The courses can be included in the course of study as indicated above. Depending on start term, students first take 15 ECTS course cr. included in the specialisations listed above, along with a course in scientific method 15 ECTS cr. which is a prerequisite for the degree project.

Degree

Upon completion of the one-year programme (60 ECTS credits), a student who holds a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Business and Economics is awarded:

Degree of Master of Science in Business and Economics (one year)
Major: Business Administration

Upon completion of the one-year programme (60 ECTS credits), a student who holds a Degree of Bachelor of Social Science in Business Administration is awarded:

Degree of Master of Social Science (one year)
Major: Business Administration

Upon completion of the two-year programme (120 ECTS credits), a student who holds a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Business Economics is awarded:

Degree of Master of Science in Business and Economics (two years)
Major: Business Administration

Upon completion of the two-year programme (120 ECTS credits), a student who holds a Degree of Bachelor of Social Science in Business Administration is awarded:

Degree of Master of Social Science (two years)
Major: Business Administration

Transfer of Credits

Students have the right to transfer credits from other universities in Sweden or abroad. The recognition of previous education as credit for part of a course is subject to approval by the examiner. The recognition of previous education as credit for an entire course is subject to approval by the Student Centre.

Additional Information

Local regulations for the Bachelor's and Master's level at Karlstad University stipulate the rights and obligations of staff and students.