



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Programme Study Plan

Master programme in Educational Leadership and School Development

Programme Code: SAUTS

Programme Title: Master programme in Educational Leadership and School Development
 Master (60 ECTS credits)
 Master (120 ECTS credits)

Credits/ECTS: 60/120

Approval The programme study plan was approved by the Faculty Board of Arts and Social Sciences on 2019-12-05, and is valid from the autumn semester of 2020.

Language of Instruction: Swedish

Degree Level: Master's

Degree Qualifications: General

Prerequisites Teacher Education Degree, including Bachelor-level degree project 15 ECTS credits or equivalent qualifications, 180 ECTS credits. Upper secondary school level Swedish 3 or B, Swedish as a Second Language 3 or B, and English 6 or A, or equivalent.

General information

The programme is designed for teachers at all levels and specialisations of education and school leaders who wish to acquire further qualifications in the area of educational leadership and school development. The focus is on leading development at the school level on the basis of research and proven experience. The two basic principles of the programme are the close link between professional practice and the research-based knowledge of school development and leadership, and a learning organisation

perspective, which means taking advantage of the daily learning acquired in organisations, thus creating opportunities for continued learning.

Theories and perspectives on school development and leadership are presented, studied, reviewed and problematised to generate new knowledge, development and learning in the interface between students' own experiences, the practice-related dimension and a critical approach.

Programme Outcomes

The aim of the programme is that students meet the national as well as the local outcomes required for a Degree of Master (60/120 credits).

National outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Master (60 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including both broad knowledge of the field and a considerable degree of specialised knowledge in certain areas of the field as well as insight into current research and development work, and
- demonstrate deepened methodological knowledge in the main field of study.

For a Degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including both broad knowledge of the field and a considerable degree of specialised knowledge in certain areas of the field as well as insight into current research and development work, and
- demonstrate deepened methodological knowledge in the main field of study.

Competence and skills

For a Degree of Master (60 credits) degree, students shall:

- demonstrate ability to integrate knowledge and to analyse, assess and handle complex phenomena, issues and situations in the field even with limited information,
- demonstrate ability to independently identify and formulate problems and to plan and perform qualified tasks with adequate methods within given time limits,
- demonstrate ability to give a clear account of and discuss their conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which these are based, orally and in writing, in dialogue with various groups, and
- demonstrate the skills required to participate in research and development or to work with other qualified tasks.

For a Degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations even with limited information

- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues critically, independently and creatively as well as to plan and, using appropriate methods, undertake advanced tasks within predetermined time frames and so contribute to the formation of knowledge as well as the ability to evaluate this work
- demonstrate the ability in speech and writing both nationally and internationally to clearly report and discuss his or her conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Master (60 credits) degree, students shall:

- demonstrate ability to make assessments informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical aspects and demonstrate awareness of the ethical aspects of research and development work,
- demonstrate awareness of the potentials and limitations of science, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate ability to identify their needs for further knowledge and to take responsibility for their own ongoing learning.

For a Degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate ability to make assessments informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical aspects and demonstrate awareness of the ethical aspects of research and development work,
- demonstrate awareness of the potentials and limitations of science, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate ability to identify their needs for further knowledge and to take responsibility for their own ongoing learning.

Local outcomes

In addition to the national outcomes specified above for a Degree of Master (60 credits), the student shall

- demonstrate in-depth knowledge of the theoretical and practical aspects of school development based on a learning organisational perspective.

In addition to the national outcomes specified above for a Degree of Master (120 credits), the student shall

- demonstrate in-depth knowledge of the theoretical and practical aspects of school development based on a learning organisation perspective.
- demonstrate ability to apply and critically review a learning organisational perspective in relation to educational leadership and systematic school development efforts in their own practice.

Programme Structure

The programme offers the choice of either of two qualifications: A Master's degree of 60 ECTS credits or a Master's degree of 120 ECTS credits.

For a Master's degree of 60 ECTS credits all courses are required.

For a Master's degree of 120 ECTS credits, students complete an independent project of 30 ECTS credits or two projects of 15 credits each, one at the level of Master's 60 credits and one at the level of Master's 120 credits. Students opting for a Master with a 30-credit independent project have the opportunity to study the courses Inclusive education, 15 credits (semester 3) and Schools as a Learning Organisation, 15 credits (semester 4) or Schools as a Learning Organisation, 15 credits (semester 3) and Professional dialogue, 15 credits (semester 4). Students opting for Master's 120 credits with two independent projects 15 + 15 credits have the same opportunity in semesters 5 and 8.

Course aims and content are described in the respective course syllabus. Generally, instruction is characterised by collegial methods through which students develop the skills stated in the learning outcomes. Based on the pedagogical view that learning is situated and social, students work in groups, reflecting and discussing previous experiences, course content and individual and joint assignments. Great emphasis is on exploring, testing and critically reviewing their own practice in relation to the theories treated, with a view to bridging the gap between theory and practice, thus contributing to a deeper understanding of the field constituting the content of a course.

Students are expected to have the opportunity to carry out studies in professional practice in a school or educational organisation.

The programme is offered as distance education with physical meetings with examination components at Karlstad University.

Programme curriculum

Note that the programme courses can have other titles and be offered in a different order than listed below.

Master's degree 60 ECTS credits

- Semester 1: Political Governance and Professional Management (15 ECTS cr)
- Semester 2: Leading School Development (15 ECTS cr)
- Semester 3: Research Methods (15 ECTS cr)
- Semester 4: Independent project I (15 ECTS cr)

Master's degree, Independent project 30 ECTS credits

- Semester 1: Political Governance and Professional Management (15 ECTS cr)

- Semester 2: Leading School Development (15 ECTS cr)
- Semester 3: Schools as a Learning organisation (15 ECTS cr) or Inclusion (15 ECTS cr)
- Semester 4: Schools as a Learning organisation (15 ECTS cr) or Professional Conversations (15 ECTS cr)
- Semester 5: Research Methods (15 ECTS cr)
- Semester 6: The Theory and Practice of School development (15 ECTS cr)
- Semesters 7-8: Independent project (30 ECTS cr)

Master's degree Independent projects 15 + 15 ECTS credits

- Semester 1-4: Master's degree in Educational Leadership and School Development (60 ECTS credits)
- Semester 5: Schools as a Learning organisation (15 ECTS cr) or Inclusion (15 ECTS cr)
- Semester 6: The Theory and Practice of School development (15 ECTS cr)
- Semester 7: Independent project II (15 ECTS cr)
- Semester 8: Schools as a Learning organisation (15 ECTS cr) or Professional Conversations (15 ECTS cr)

Degree Title

Master of Social Science (60 credits) Major: Educational Work

Degree of Master of Social Science (120 credits)

Major: Educational Work

Transfer of Credits

According to the *Higher Education Ordinance* Ch. 6 sects 6-8, students have the right to request transfer of credits for previous studies.

Additional Information

The local regulations for undergraduate and master studies at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.