



Programme Syllabus

Environment and Safety

Programme Code: SGMIS

Programme Title: Environment and Safety
Miljö och säkerhet

Credits: 180 ECTS

Programme Approval: The programme syllabus was approved by the Faculty Board of Arts and Social Science on 4 February 2021, and applies as of the autumn semester of 2021.

Language of Instruction: Swedish and English

Education Cycle: First cycle

Degree Type: General

Entry Requirements: General entry requirements plus upper secondary school level Civics A/1b/1a1 1a2, Mathematics B/2a/2b/2c and Science B/2 (field-specific eligibility A14). Science B/2 can be replaced by Physics A/1, Chemistry A/1, and Biology A/1. Optional courses may have other requirements.

General Information

The Environment and Safety study programme is concluded with a Degree of Bachelor in Risk and Environmental Studies. The programme centres on societal management of environment-related risk within the framework of sustainable development. Graduates are qualified to work with issues related to the environment, safety, and sustainable development in various investigative, analytical, surveying and planning capacities in the private and public sectors, or move on to further studies at Master level. Examples of professional titles are environmental coordinator, risk coordinator, climate adaptation coordinator, environmental strategist, environmental consultant, energy and climate adviser, and operation developer.

Environment and Safety is a multidisciplinary study programme. Students acquire broad and

versatile knowledge providing a broad base for analysing environmental problems and risks and to produce strategies to manage problems and risks and contribute to sustainable development. Studies in science as well as social sciences and the humanities are included. Professional contacts are maintained throughout the programme through study visits, guest lectures, and a practical placement period in the fourth semester. Great emphasis is put on skills in communicating with the public as well as decision-makers and experts in various areas. Programme structure, agreements, and exchange programmes with universities in other countries facilitate studying parts of the programme abroad.

Programme Outcomes

For programme completion, students must meet the national requirements for a Degree of Bachelor.

National outcomes

The Higher Education Act stipulates:

First-cycle courses and study programmes shall develop

- the ability of students to make independent and critical assessments,
- the ability of students to identify, formulate and solve problems autonomously,
- the preparedness of students to deal with changes in working life.

In addition to knowledge and skills in their field of study, students shall develop the ability to:

- gather and interpret information at a scholarly level,
- stay abreast of the development of knowledge, and
- communicate their knowledge to others, including those who lack specialist knowledge in the field.

The Higher Education Ordinance further stipulates the national outcomes for a Degree of Bachelor:

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Bachelor the student shall

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including knowledge of the disciplinary foundation of the field, knowledge of applicable methodologies in the field, specialised study in some aspect of the field as well as awareness of current research issues.

Competence and skills

For a Degree of Bachelor the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to search for, gather, evaluate and critically interpret the relevant information for a formulated problem and also discuss phenomena, issues and situations critically,
- demonstrate the ability to identify, formulate and solve problems autonomously and to complete tasks within predetermined time frames,
- demonstrate the ability to present and discuss information, problems and solutions in speech and writing and in dialogue with different audiences, and
- demonstrate the skills required to work autonomously in the main field of study.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Bachelor the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical aspects,
- demonstrate insight into the role of knowledge in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge and undertake ongoing development of his or her skills.

Programme Structure

Knowledge in areas of science, social science, and the humanities are integrated in courses, even if the emphasis may vary. Theoretical knowledge and practical application skills are deepened and specialised progressively over the three years. To encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning, instruction includes student-led seminars, courses with problem-based assignments, and self-evaluation.

Sustainable development, equality and gender are important factors in risk and environmental studies and are included in several courses, such as the second year essay course and final year theory and method course.

In the first year, all students take the same courses and environmental problems and risks are thematically integrated. The courses centre on the most important environmental risks in our society, locally, nationally, and globally, their consequences for human beings, society, and nature, and the challenges they pose in terms of management. Students also study different societal responses in the form of organising, legislation, and other types of means of control. Concepts and theories are included.

In the second year, there are joint courses of a more applied character, preparing students for professional life. Students test, analyse, and reflect on their future practical and professional roles. Students arrange their practical placement themselves with the support of the programme director. The University cannot guarantee placements. The second year also includes an essay course, introducing students to academic writing, which enables them to claim a Higher Education Diploma.

In the third year, students have the opportunity to profile their qualifications through course options for one semester. They may specialise further in their major, Risk and Environmental Studies, or choose broadening courses in other fields. Students can also choose to study abroad. In the last semester, there is an emphasis on methods, theory, and a degree project in Risk and Environmental Studies.

Programme Curriculum

The tables below indicate the programme's study route (note that the courses can have other titles and be offered in a different order than listed below)

Year	Study Route
1	Introduction Environment and Safety, 15 ECTS credits (mandatory) The Natural Science Basis of Risk and Environmental Issues, 15 ECTS credits (mandatory) Societal Strategies for Environment and Safety, 15 ECTS credits (mandatory)

	Environmental risk management, 15 ECTS credits (mandatory)
2	Tools of Environmental and Safety Management, 15 ECTS credits (recommended) Local and Regional Adaptation to Climate Change, 15 ECTS credits (mandatory) Environment, Risk and Sustainable Development, 15 ECTS credits (mandatory) Practical Placement, 7.5 ECTS credits (recommended) Communication related to Environment and Risk Management, 7.5 ECTS credits (recommended)
3	Elective courses, 30 ECTS credits (suggested courses are listed on the study programme website) Method and Theory in Risk and Environmental Studies, 15 ECTS credits (mandatory) Bachelor Thesis in Risk and Environmental Studies, 15 ECTS credits (mandatory)

Title of Qualification

Bachelor of Social Science

Major: Risk and Environmental Studies

Filosofie kandidatexamen

Huvudområde: Risk- och miljöstudier

Credit Transfer

According to the Higher Education Ordinance Ch. 6 Sec. 6–8 students have the right to transfer credits and have prior learning recognised upon approval.

Additional Information

The local regulations for first and second cycle education at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.

Previous versions of the programme syllabus have been approved:

13 June 2014, reg.no. HNT 2014/159, applies from the autumn semester 2015

23 February 2017, reg.no. HNT 2017/91, applies from the autumn semester 2017

6 December 2017, reg.no. HNT 2017/576, applies from the autumn semester 2018

6 March 2020, reg.no. HS 2020/108, applies from the autumn semester 2020