



Programme syllabus

Animal Science - Master's Programme

Husdjursvetenskap - masterprogram

120.0 hp

Programme code: VM006

Finalized by: PN-VH, 2022-02-15

Valid from: Autumn semester 2024 (2024-09-02)

Programme board

The programme board for education in veterinary medicine and animal science

SLU ID

SLU.ua.2022.3.1.1-433

Revised

2022-02-15

Revised by

The programme board for education in veterinary medicine and animal science

Entry requirements

In order to become admitted to the Animal Science – Master's programme the following entry requirements must be fulfilled:

General entry requirements: Degree of Bachelor comprising at least 180 credits or a corresponding degree from a foreign country.

Specific entry requirements: Passed courses of at least 90 credits in one of the following subject areas:

- Biology or Animal Science
- Agricultural Science, including at least 30 credits of Animal Science/Zoology
- Equine Science
- Veterinary Nursing
- Veterinary Medicine

In addition, knowledge equivalent to the course English 6 from a Swedish upper secondary school is required.

Grade requirements: In the course above, the applicant must have earned at least a Pass grade. This requirement is fulfilled by those who have an undergraduate degree from a Swedish university comprising 180 credits. For applicants from Nordic countries and some English-speaking countries, special rules apply.

The specific entry requirements as above can also be met by those who have obtained equivalent knowledge through a foreign degree or if equivalent knowledge has been obtained by other means.

For admission to the courses included in the programme, specific entry requirements stipulated in each individual course syllabus must be fulfilled.

Objectives

Objectives for a Degree

Objectives for a Degree of Master In accordance with the appendix to the Ordinance for the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, for a Degree of Master, the student shall fulfil the following requirements:

Knowledge and understanding

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 specialised methodological knowledge in the main field of study.

Competence and skills

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, autonomously 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, and
- demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development work or autonomous employment in some other qualified capacity.

Judgement and approach

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

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the main field of study informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues 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, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

Degree

Degree awarded on completion of the programme

The Animal Science – Master’s programme aims at a Degree of Master of Science (120 credits) with a major in Animal Science, which is a general qualification. Other degrees may be awarded after completion of the programme, provided that the requirements for the degree are fulfilled. See local instructions.

Students who fulfil the qualification requirements for the Degree of Master (120 credits) will be provided with a degree certificate upon request. The degree certificate will specify the qualification as Degree of Master of Science (120 credits) with a major in Animal Science.

Degree requirements

A Degree of Master of Science (120 credits) with a major in Animal Science is obtained when the student has a full course portfolio of 120 credits with the following requirements:

- at least 30 credits of courses with specialised study in animal science (AIN; A1F)
- at least 30 credits of degree project for second-cycle studies in the field of animal science (A2E)

In addition, the prior award of a Degree of Bachelor, Degree of Bachelor of Fine Arts, professional or vocational qualification of at least 180 credits or a corresponding qualification from abroad is required.

Content

Programme description

The programme is intended to offer the students with a clearly profiled education in the main field of animal science, with a scientific approach. Through its courses the programme offers both broad knowledge within animal science and a considerable degree of specialised knowledge in certain areas of the field. The programme has a scientific basis and the research at SLU is used to a high extent in the education, while at the same time the programme has ties to the business sector. The courses offered are based on scientific methods used in the field of animal science as well as on deeper insight into current research and development work.

The programme has a well thought-out content of general skills regardless of which courses the student chooses. The education starts with an introduction course with focus on scientific methods used in animal science research. During the programme elective courses are offered within the different areas of the main field. At the end of the programme the students are given the opportunity to train scientific skills in a research environment. The education is concluded by a degree project.

A well-functioning study environment is characterized by openness, gender equality and an inclusive manner. SLU works actively for gender equality and equal opportunities, which promotes a climate that takes advantage of the diversity of backgrounds, lifesituations and skills brought by employees and students.

The programme is taught in English.

Courses in the programme

Main field of study: Biology (BI) Animal science (HV) Agricultural science (LB)

Year 1

Animal science – a scientific approach, 7,5 hp (HV, AIN)

Biology of lactation, 7,5 hp (BI/HV, A1N)

Animal welfare and behavior, 15 hp (HV/BI, A1N)

Designing breeding programmes, 15 hp (HV/LB, A1N)

Feed science and forage production, 15 hp (HV/LB, A1N)

Animal nutrition and welfare, 15 hp (HV/BI, A1N)

Animal genetics - health, behavior and welfare, 15 hp (HV/BI, A1N)

Year 2

Advanced animal nutrition, 15 hp (HV, A1F)

Advanced animal welfare and animal protection, 15 hp (HV/BI, A1F) Research training and projects including laboratory animal science, 15 hp (HV/BI, A1F)

Independent project in animal science, 30 hp (HV, A2E)

The courses offered may change during the programme. Decisions on the courses offered are taken well in advance of the next academic year.

Each course on the programme has its own syllabus that describes the course content and other specifics. Detailed information on when the courses are offered is available on the SLU student web.

Additional information about the programme

Possibilities for further studies

Students who complete the Master's programme and are awarded a degree have the possibility to continue their studies at doctoral level.