

Programme Description

Master in International Business

SAIFO-H24

Decision taken by	Head of Department, Thomas Winman
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Version	1
Adopted	2023-09-20

Programme description is a supplement to the programme syllabus which is the legally binding document.

Ground data

Department	School of Business, Economics and IT
Section	Division of Business Administration
Name of Programme, Swedish	Internationellt företagande, magisterprogram i företagsekonomi
Name of Programme, English	Master in International Business
HE credits (number of credits)	60
Level (1st Cycle, 2nd Cycle)	2nd Cycle
Entry requirements, Swedish	Kandidatexamen om 180 hp med 90 hp i huvudområdet företagsekonomi eller motsvarande. Engelska 6 eller motsvarande
Entry requirements, English	Bachelor degree of 180 HE credits with 90 HE credits in the major subject area of business administration or equivalent. Verified knowledge of English corresponding to the course English 6 in the Swedish Upper Secondary School (high school) or equivalent.
Main field of study, Swedish	Företagsekonomi
Main field of study, English	Business Administration
Degree, Swedish	Filosofie magisterexamen med huvudområdet företagsekonomi
Degree, English	Degree of Master of Science (60 credits) with a major in Business Administration
Rate of study (full-time, part-time)	Full-time
Type of instruction (on campus, distance teaching)	On campus
Language of instruction (Sw, Eng)	Eng

General programme information

This programme trains students to become an international business professional with cross-cultural experience. On completion of this programme, students are able to make informed decisions in multiple contexts of cross-border business operations. Students also gain a full understanding of the connections between current business practices, research and theory. Recognizing higher levels of involvement of SMEs (small and medium-sized enterprises) in international operations, the courses pay equal attention to large companies operating globally and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) – whether they are making their first steps into international markets or rapidly expanding internationally. All disciplines the students study are put in an international context thus they are prepared to engage on an international level academically, socially and culturally for work in the field.

The vision of the University West is to create a more sustainable world by creating knowledge and by making it available for everyone in interaction with the outside world. This programme welcomes students from all parts of the world who create knowledge through exchanging and interacting with students, teachers and staff who come from different parts of the world.

This programme includes Work Integrated Learning (WIL) which aims to contribute to the academic environments of the University West. Work Integrated Learning does not imply that students will be employed in companies, but rather it is about working in company-initiated projects. Students get the opportunity to identify and solve real-life problems faced by international companies in the global business environment using a scientific approach. Students in this programme also gets the opportunity to develop strategies for local and regionally located companies which contribute in creating a more sustainable world. Students meet with international companies' representatives or participate in university research and development projects conducted in collaboration with the private and public sectors within and outside of the region. Emphasis is placed on bridging theories and the current practices of international business operations.

Thus, after the completion of the programme, students will be equipped with the skills needed to operate across borders, cultures, industries and functions. The range of career options available to students is broad. Recent graduates have been employed by large multinationals, management consultancy companies and banks as well as small companies taking their first steps toward international markets.

Examples of entry positions for graduates of this programme includes but are not limited to marketing managers, sales managers, communication professionals, consultants and business analysts.

Furthermore, after graduating from the Master in International Business students will be eligible to continue studying as a PhD student at other universities in Sweden or abroad.

Programme contents, structure, and progression

The main area of the programme is Business Administration. The courses in the programme include Firm internationalization, International management, International marketing, International perspective on management system, Business research method, Knowledge development in international firms, and a thesis course. The education in this programme invests heavily in scientific excellence which is reflected in the students' project work and thesis. The courses include a very clear reference to research in the programme's main area, i.e., Business Administration. The programme students learn to perform business and social science research and use its results in problem solving as well as to produce new research results based on the problems they identify in business practices.

After finishing the programme the students earn a Master of Science with a major in Business Administration.

Master programme in Business Administration (One Year) 60 HE credits, SAIFO																																								
Study path is preliminary																																								
Autum											Spring																													
36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Course code
International Management 7,5 HE credits																							IFD900																	
Firm Internationalization 7,5 HE credits																							FIN500																	
											International Marketing 7,5 HE credits												IMD900																	
											Business Research Methods 7,5 HE credits												FEF700																	
																						International Perspectives on Management Control Systems 7,5 HE credits												IPE700						
																						Knowledge Development in International Firms 7,5 HE credits												KUF600						
																						Degree Project, Business Administration, Master 15 HE credits												EXD951						

The research basis for the programme

There is a strong research focus in the programme. Every course includes small scale research projects where the students identify research gaps and carry out data collection and analysis in groups. Every course includes number of scientific articles which the students need to read, reflect on, and discuss over literature seminars and use to produce scientific text in their research projects.

The labour market, collaboration, and work-integrated learning¹

The world of business needs professionals with advanced knowledge in various fields of management, while at the same time demanding personal skills such as flexibility, adaptability, reflection, determination, and creativity and innovation. These professionals must master a wide range of management techniques, and must possess awareness, up-to-date theoretical knowledge, knowledge of the current market reality and trends in the business world. This programme focuses particularly on the international aspects of business needed in today's business world.

Today our graduates are employed by Volvo cars, ABB, Electrolux, ESCP, Volvo group, NEVS, ALSTOM, AxFood, CELLINK, StenaLine, SEB, KPMG, Business Sweden and various other multinational and local companies as marketing researchers, customer service representatives, managers, lead generation specialist, business developer, online sales manager, buyer/up time buyer, investment analyst, account manager, campaign manager and many more.

The students gain such professional skills through work integrated learning, which is heavily embedded in every course in the programme. They perform small scale research projects initiated by companies where they try generating managerial implications for the companies. They also gain their skills through teaching based on real life examples, meeting alumni, guest lectures from multinational companies and study visits, where they get the possibility to ask questions about the practice to the professionals.

¹ Work-integrated learning is a pedagogical practice in which students' learning takes place through the integration of theoretical and practical knowledge and experience, derived from an educational context within the framework of both higher education as a work environment and civil society.

Sustainable development

The courses in the programme include sustainability to a great extent. The aspect of sustainability is reflected in group projects and literature seminars. Students develop sustainable marketing strategies for companies. Gender equality is reflected in the programme where we see both female and male students from different parts of the world.

Internationalisation

The programme brings international perspectives in all its courses. We have students from different parts of the world who interact with each other and exchange knowledge and experience with each other.