Programme syllabus for the Master of Arts (120 credits) in Archival Studies, Library and Information Studies, and Museum Studies (ALM)

1. Programme details
   - Title of the programme of study: Master of Arts (120 credits) in Archival Studies, Library and Information Studies, and Museum Studies (ALM)
   - Title of the programme in Swedish: Masterprogram i arkivvetenskap, biblioteks- och informationsvetenskap respektive museologi (ABM)
   - Specialisations:
     - Archival Studies
     - Library and Information Studies
     - Museum Studies
   - Credits: 120
   - Cycle: Second
   - Programme code: HAABM
   - Details of approval: Syllabus approved by the Syllabus Committee of the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 21 April 2008
   - Details of changes approved: Amendments approved by the pro-dean for first- and second-cycle studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 3 May 2011, 8 November 2011, 30 October 2014 and 1 March 2016

2. Description of programme of study
   The main focus of the programme is communication of information and culture in archives, libraries and museums aiming to provide access for specific target groups. Particular emphasis is placed on mediation of both material and immaterial aspects of information and culture, and on organisational development of the institutions and organisations involved in mediation. Issues concerning digitisation and the internet as both an artefact and an arena for professional practice form integral elements of the programme. Furthermore, the programme is typified by its integration of theoretical and practical components based on student-active teaching. Opportunities for contact with mentors active in the ALM sector are offered throughout the programme.

   The students are to select one of the specialisations of archival studies, library and information studies, or museum studies. The programme starts with a joint introductory course for all three specialisations. This is followed by subject-specific courses sandwiched
with joint courses, and students are invited to select elective courses to achieve an individual programme profile. The fourth semester consists of the students’ work on their degree projects. The joint components of the programme comprise an introduction, project management, educational aspects of ALM, strategic development of the areas and research methodology. The subject-specific courses have a similar structure. They are introduced by specialised study of the subject and the professions involved, followed by specialised study of collections and their organisation, mediation and accessibility, and a practice-oriented project.

On completion of the programme, the students will have developed knowledge, skills and approaches for qualified professional activities within the archive, library and museum sector. The programme also serves as a preparation for research studies in archival studies, library and information studies, and museum studies.

3. Learning outcomes

For a degree of Master of Arts (120 credits), the students shall

1. Knowledge and understanding

   • demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the field of communication of information and culture in archives, libraries and museums, 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
   • demonstrate specialised methodological knowledge in the main field of study

2. Competence and skills

   • 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 in different contexts to clearly report and discuss their conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences
   • demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development work or autonomous employment in some other qualified capacity
   • identify, analyse and apply theories and methods used to mediate information and culture
   • independently lead, plan and conduct organisational development in the institutions and associated organisations of the ALM sector
• identify, analyse and apply theories and methods used to collect, organise and preserve information and culture
• discuss in speech and writing the professional practices of the ALM sector
• demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the field of communication of information and culture in archives, libraries and museums 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
• demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for their ongoing learning
• exhibit a critical understanding and awareness of the institutions and associated organisations of the ALM sector, and analyse their functions in the light of history, society, economics, ICT and politics
• find and critically assess and review information and culture based on a contextual understanding of their production and the organisations in which they are communicated
• reflect on issues concerning gender, ethnicity and diversity in their future professional role

4. Course information

Compulsory courses for the programme as a whole

ALM: Introduction to Studies of Archives, Libraries and Museums, 15 credits
ALM: Project as a Working Method, 7.5 credits
ALM: Pedagogical Aspects in ALM Activities, 7.5 credits
ALM: Strategic Development of ALM Institutions, 7.5 credits
ALM: Research Methods, 7.5 credits

Compulsory courses for specialisation 1

Archival Studies: The Archive as Institution, Function and Phenomenon, 7.5 credits
Archival Studies: Collecting and Organising Knowledge, 15 credits
Archival Studies: Access, Reference Services and Communication, 7.5 credits
Archival Studies: Development of Institution-Based Project – Aggregation of Records in Theory and Practice, 7.5 credits
Archival Studies: Master’s Thesis, 30 credits

Compulsory courses for specialisation 2

Library and Information Studies: The Library as Institution, Function, and Phenomenon, 7.5 credits
Compulsory courses for specialisation 3

(Course title and number of credits)

Library and Information Studies: Collecting and Organising Knowledge, 15 credits
Library and Information Studies: Information Searching, Reference Services and Communication, 7.5 credits
Library and Information Studies: The Digital Library, 7.5 credits
Library and Information Studies: Master’s Thesis, 30 credits
Museum Studies: The Museum as Institution, Function and Phenomenon, 7.5 credits
Museum Studies: Collecting and Organising Knowledge, 15 credits
Museum Studies: Material, Immaterial and Visual Culture, 7.5 credits
Museum Studies: Work Placement Project – Website or Exhibition, 7.5 credits
Museum Studies: Master’s Thesis, 30 credits

Elective courses

The programme includes an elective course amounting to 7.5 credits.
The course can be selected from the range offered at or outside the home department, in consultation with the programme director.

Availability of the courses in the academic year.

The programme starts every autumn semester.

Schematic layout of the programme

Semester 1
ABM M01: ABM: Introduction to Studies of Archives, Libraries and Museums, 15 credits
Specialised study 1** 7.5 credits
  - ABM M30: Archival Studies: The Archive as Institution, Function and Phenomenon
  - ABM M50: Library and Information Studies: The Library as Institution, Function and Phenomenon
  - ABM M70: Museum Studies: The Museum as Institution, Function and Phenomenon
ABM M02: ABM: Project as a Working Method, 7.5 credits

Semester 2
Specialised study 2** 15 credits
  - ABM M31: Archival Studies: Collecting and Organising Knowledge
  - ABM M51: Library and Information Studies: Collecting and Organising Knowledge
- ABM M71: *Museum Studies: Collecting and Organising Knowledge*

**ABM M03: ABM: Pedagogical Aspects in ALM Activities, 7.5 credits**

Specialised study 3** 7.5 credits:
- ABM M32: *Archival Studies: Access, Reference Services and Communication*
- ABM M52: *Library and Information Studies: Information Searching, Reference Services and Communication*
- ABM M72: *Museum Studies: Material, Immaterial and Visual Culture*

**Semester 3**

**ABM M05: ALM: Strategic Development of ALM Institutions*** 7.5 credits

Specialised study 4** 7.5 credits:
- ABM M33: *Archival Studies: Development of Institution-Based Project – Aggregation of Records in Theory and Practice*
- ABM M53: *Library and Information Studies: The Digital Library*
- ABM M73: *Museum Studies: Work Placement Project – Website or Exhibition*

Elective course *** 7.5 credits

*The course can be selected from the range offered at or outside the home department, in consultation with the programme director.*

**ABM M06: ALM: Research Methods* 7.5 credits

**Semester 4**

Specialised study 5 ** 30 credits
- ABM M34: Archival Studies: Master’s Thesis
- ABM M54: Library and Information Studies: Master’s Thesis
- ABM M74: Museum Studies: Master’s Thesis
### Semester 1 (30 credits)
- ALM: Introduction to Studies of Archives, Libraries and Museums (15 credits) ABM M01
- Specialised study 1** (7.5 credits) ABM M30, ABM M50, ABM M70
- ALM: Project as a Working Method (7.5 credits) ABM M02

### Semester 2 (30 credits)
- Specialised study 2** (15 credits) ABMM31, ABMM51, ABMM71
- ABM: Pedagogical Aspects in ALM Activities* (7.5 credits) ABM M03
- Specialised study 3** (7.5 credits) ABM M32, ABM M52, ABM M72

### Semester 3 (30 credits)
- ALM: Strategic Development of ALM Institutions* (7.5 credits) ABM M05
- Specialised study 4** (7.5 credits) ABM M33, ABM M53, ABM M73
- Elective Course*** (7.5 credits)
- ALM: Research Methods* (7.5 credits) ABM M06

### Semester 4 (30 credits)
- Specialised study 5, Master’s Thesis ** (30 credits) ABM M34, ABM M54, ABM M74

* Courses with sandwiched joint and specific components depending on the specialisation.
** Specific courses for each specialisation.
*** Course enabling the student to engage either in further specialised study within their chosen specialisation or in broadening study within another specialisation. The course can be from either the first or second cycle.

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5. **Details of the degree**
- **Degree title in English** Master of Arts (120 credits)
- **Degree title in Swedish** Filosofi masterexamen

6. **Admission requirements and selection criteria**
- **Admission requirements** To be admitted to the programme, students must have a Bachelor’s degree. The degree is not required to be in the specialisation chosen for the programme.
- **Selection criteria** The selection will primarily be based on a written statement of purpose (composed according to specific instructions), academic qualifications and interviews. An initial selection will be made prior to the interviews. The selection criteria are intended to assess the suitability of the applicants for the study programme and for work in the ALM sector. The applicant’s suitability is determined by their motivation, verbal proficiency, problem-solving ability and interpersonal skills.