

Program information from your training leader

Welcome to study the Master in Sustainability Science- Environment and Decision Making at the University of Gävle. This text gives you a brief introduction to University studies and about the programme details.

To read at a distance

The Master in Sustainability Science- Environment and Decision Making is full time (100%) online distance program, which means that you study with the help of the Internet and instructions on the learning platform Canvas. You can read this distance Master program regardless of where you are and as long as you have access to a working internet connection. However, reading at a distance does not mean that you can fully decide for yourself when you study. In each course that is included in the education, there are some time-bound elements where you need to participate in activities for a certain period of time

Program structure

The program comprises 120 higher education credits and leads to a Master's degree in Environmental Science. One semester of full-time studies corresponds to 30 higher education credits (credits). The full-time studies are arranged in such a way that the students sequentially read courses of 7.5 higher education credits throughout the program, apart from the master's thesis, which comprises 30 higher education credits.

[Read more about the start of autumn and spring term](#)

During the first year of the program, the student reads an introductory course that deals with sustainability science and systems analysis, which is followed by scientific method and philosophy of science. The student then reads a course in group psychology, leadership and project management, followed by a course in natural resource management and social-ecological systems. All in all, the first semester provides both a broad overview and an in-depth understanding of the main field's central concepts, theories and methods, as well as knowledge of project management and group dynamics.

Semester 1

In the autumn of 2021(first semester), you will study following courses:

Week 35-39 Sustainability Science and Systems Theory **MIA 006** (7.5cr)

Week 40-44 Philosophy of Science, Research Ethics, Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods **MIA 007** (7.5 cr)

Week 45-49 Group Decision Making and Leadership for Sustainability **MIA 008** (7.5cr)

Week 50-02 Natural Resource Management and Resilience Building of Social-Ecological Systems **MIA 006** (7.5cr)

Semester 2

Week 3-12 Strategic Sustainability Management **IEA 005** (6cr)-40%

Week 3-12 Methods for Environmental Assessment **MIA301** (9cr)-60%

Week 13-17 Behavioral and Attitudinal Change for Sustainable Development **MIA 010** (7.5cr)

Week 18-22 Dealing with Wicked Problems of Sustainability **MIA 302** (7.5cr)

There is also the opportunity for the students to finish their education after 60 higher education credits and thus graduate. For this, the two final courses of the second semester are required to be replaced with a thesis of 15 higher education credits and should be performed between week 13-22.

Examination

As a distance student, examination work included are in the form of written exam, assignments and seminars. Total credits of individual course are divided in different mentioned ways and would be shared in detail during Course Introduction.

Support, service and support

Remember that you who are a distance student also have access to support and service from Gefle student union, the library, Student Center, study guidance, Student Health, student associations, Learning Center and IT support.

[Here is all the support, support and service gathered - information and contact information](#)

A short summary

To get started and be able to read the courses that are given, you who are admitted to the program must arrange the following:

1. Obtain course literature (see syllabi and bibliographies for each course)
2. Create user account (see Five steps to get started)
3. Register for the courses you want to study in Ladok
4. Log in to Canvas and take part in the individual courses
5. [Read more about courses](#)

All this you do online!

If you have questions regarding your studies and the Master program in Sustainability Science at a distance, you can contact me. If you have questions concerning individual courses, you should contact the respective teacher directly, which you would know along the way when studying individual course

Good luck with your studies!

Shveta Soam

Education leader for the Master in Sustainability Sciences- Environment and Decision Making at University of Gävle