

## Study guide for Master's Programme in Gender Studies: Intersectionality and Change

Dear student!

Welcome to Tema Genus, and the master's programme "Gender Studies – Intersectionality and Change". In this study guide we have gathered the information you need for taking the programme, including an outline of the programme's content and practical information. Please read this carefully in order not to miss out on vital information. The syllabus for the programme can be found on the website <https://liu.se/studieinfo/en/program/f7mge/3935>

General information about being a student at Linköping University is available at: <https://www.student.liu.se/vid-sidan-av-studierna?l=en&sc=true>

The programme's face-to-face periods are situated on Campus Valla in Linköping. You reach Linköping by bus (internationally as well as nationally), train or by air, either to Linköping airport or Stockholm Arlanda airport (and in addition approximately 2 hours train ride to get from Arlanda to Linköping). From Linköping airport you can go by taxi to Campus Valla. From Linköping Train Station, take bus 12 or 20 (bus stops 'Vallfarten' or 'Mäster Mathias väg'). You find us in 'Temahuset'. For map and more information about Campus Valla, see <https://liu.se/en/article/campus-valla>

Please note that you cannot pay with cash on the bus, but you need to buy a travel card ('Resekortet') and load it at a 'Quickomat' or at the convenience store 'Pressbyrån', located at the train station in Linköping and in Campus Valla.

## Introduction

The programme is divided into two parts: Level One comprising the first year, and Level Two comprising the second year. Both levels are organized as independent units. Students who wish to take Level One only are eligible for a Master of Social Science (60 credits) in Gender Studies with specialisation in Intersectionality and Change, this when they have completed and passed all included exams.

The programme is divided into two levels, each equivalent to one academic year.

Level One, year one:

	Course	Course	Course
<b>First term</b> <b>19 August-</b> <b>19 January</b>	Introduction to Studies of Intersectional Gender at Advanced Level, 6 credits  Includes a mandatory face-to-face week at Campus Linköping	Exploring Intersectionality, 12 credits	Analytical tools 12 credits
<b>Second term</b> <b>20 January-</b> <b>7 June</b>	Career Paths and Professional Communication, 6 credits  Includes a mandatory face-to-face period at Campus Linköping	Analyzing Change, 9 credits	Master's Thesis I (incl. supervision and thesis writing course), 15 credits  Includes a mandatory face-to-face period at Campus Linköping

Level Two, year two:

	Course	Elective Courses	Elective Courses
<b>Third term</b>  <b>Dates</b> <b>TBA</b>	Feminist Genealogies and Social Movements, 15 credits  Includes a mandatory face-to-face period at Campus Linköping	Internship, 7,5 credits  <i>or</i>  Feminist Environmental Humanities, 7,5 credits	Feminist Pedagogy and Intersectional Gender Didactics, 7,5 credits  <i>or</i>  Equality and Justice in Organisations, 7,5 credits
<b>Fourth term</b>  <b>Dates</b> <b>TBA</b>	Theories and Methodologies, 15 credits Includes a mandatory face-to-face period at Campus Linköping	Master's Thesis II (incl. supervision and thesis writing course), 15 credits Includes a mandatory face-to-face period at Campus Linköping	

Information about the courses, including course coordinators and dates for the face-to-face periods, will be available on

<https://liu.se/studieinfo/en/program/f7mge/3935>

Each course has a course coordinator that is responsible for the course. Please direct any specific course questions to the course coordinator. Each course has its own key document with all relevant information about the course. This key document should be available to you on Lisam (the learning platform), two weeks before the course starts.

## Registration, LiU-ID and LiU-card

You must register for every course within the programme. Before the start of the first term, you will get a virtual roll-call by e-mail. In this roll-call you will get information on how to register both on the programme and on the first course, 757A21. For the following terms, please register in the Student Portal in Lisam.

When you have registered you will receive a LiU-ID which is your user-identity as a student at LiU. The LiU-ID gives you access to e-mail, the Student Portal and electronic library resources, including online databases and e-journals. The LiU-ID is also your login to Lisam.

During the first face-to-face week, you will also receive a LiU-card, which is useful when you are on campus during face-to-face meetings. Use the card to access university buildings after office hours and to borrow books in the university library.

You will also get a LiU e-mail address. *Please make sure to use this e-mail address in all the contact with the university and to check it on a regular basis.* This mail address is linked to other university systems, for example documentation of results ("Ladok") and Lisam, hence it is very important to use this address, or you might miss out on vital information from the university.

## Pedagogical Formats

The programme combines online distance education with recorded lectures, online seminars, workshops and meetings on campus (so-called 'blended education'). The pedagogical format in the online and the face-to-face classroom is experimental. More traditional academic formats (e.g. lectures and seminar discussions) are mixed with workshop formats that focus on written and spoken performances which challenge traditional boundaries between academic and creative writing, speaking and intervening. In addition to this, you are expected to engage in independent studies. During the first term you will work in tutor groups, i.e. groups of approximately ten students. During the first face-to-face week you will be assigned a tutor group and you will meet your tutor. These tutor groups also function as co-tutor groups, i.e. when you meet without your tutor and coordinate the discussion by yourself.

## Online Learning

The teachers on the programme will facilitate discussions and reflections on ways of learning. Taking a distance online course requires you to be active and take extra responsibility for your learning. At the beginning of the programme you should consider: *What are my learning strategies and how may I improve my learning in this context?*

Three things to consider:

1. *Communication is crucial.* Since you most of the time won't be attending a traditional class where you can see the faces of your classmates and professor, you will need to open up the lines of communication through email right away. Introduce yourself to your teachers, tutors and classmates and let them know your educational background and explain why you're taking the course. Get to know some classmates through emails or through electronic chats. This will make your educational experience that much smoother, when you can voice your questions and concerns to your fellow classmates in cyberspace.
2. *Class participation.* Participating in discussion forums is the equivalent to raising your hand in class and contributing to the dialogue. Make sure your voice is being heard.
3. *Establish a routine.* As you will not go to regular classes but work on your own, sometimes for longer periods of time you'll have to call on strict discipline to avoid having your work pile up. Rushing through your work the last minute will result in poor performance.

Try to separate study time and leisure time to be as effective as possible and to avoid stress. Do not hesitate to get in contact with the study counsellor if you want to discuss the planning of your studies.

To socialize and meet with your co-students throughout the course in order to keep a social ambience, we encourage you to keep in contact in ways that suit you. Create a Facebook group for the programme, e-mail or Skype with fellow students.

## **Studying in English**

The language of instruction is English. For many of the students and teachers on this programme, English is not their native language. Studying in a foreign language may feel like a great challenge. Not only does one have to encounter theories and theoretical debates, which are complex and sometimes difficult to grasp, but as a non-native speaker one may also have to deal with the difficulties of the foreign language. Rather than effacing this, the teachers at Tema Genus aim to engage in pedagogies that raise issues and difficulties of studying in a foreign language. Through discussions and workshops, we aim to create a supportive learning environment where you may develop your knowledge and skills in intersectional gender studies while at the same time developing a confidence and capacity to commit yourself to learning processes in a foreign language and in a learning environment where translations and the implications of being part of a multi-lingual setting becomes a key issue for everyone – both native and non-native English speakers.

## Online tools

### Lisam

Lisam is a web-based learning platform where the teachers will post information on the course. The key document is a study guide containing information about course aims, activities, schedule, examination and literature. The key document will be available two weeks before course start. All online lectures will be pre-recorded. You will access them through links uploaded on the learning platform, hence you may access them at any time. Other activities, for example seminars, are usually not recorded. The tutor and co-tutor groups are usually mandatory, and we also strongly recommend that you participate in those activities that are not mandatory but nevertheless essential for the learning outcomes. *Please check each course's key document for exact information on mandatory activities.*

Lisam is also where you post your written assignments. All students taking the programme will be listed and have the possibilities to present themselves on this platform. The folder Submissions on Lisam is where you post your assignments/exams. Please note that the teachers will usually not provide answers to questions on the newsfeed on Lisam. If you want contact with the course coordinator or a teacher, please send an e-mail directly to this person.

The lectures are usually available one week before they are scheduled and it is advisable that you listen to the lecture before the tutor group or other group related activities. There may be changes in the schedule, so please check Lisam for updates.

Make sure you receive notifications on new announcements/changes made on Lisam by e-mail or SMS. See the student manual in Lisam for guidance.

More information on Lisam will be provided at the first face-to-face week in August.

## Zoom

For the online seminars we use Zoom, <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>. Link to the seminars will be provided on Lisam.

Please note that it is your responsibility to prepare yourself before online-discussions and seminars. For the online sessions to run smoothly, all students must make sure that their equipment is working. Make sure that you familiarise yourself with the technology, check well in advance that your headset, camera, computer, and internet connection is working. You should always try if possible to use an internet connection from wire rather than going wireless as this will risk that you lose your internet connection.

NB! To avoid delays of lectures, workshops and discussions, and to respect the times of your co-students and teachers, please connect at least ten minutes before the start of the scheduled activity.

## IT-services and support

Please check this site for more information on IT-services and support. You can find information on who to contact in case you have problems, software for students and much more: <https://www.student.liu.se/studentstod/itsupport?l=en>

We, providing this programme, would like to emphasize that we will try our best to smooth the way for you regarding the use of the online tools; however, should technical problems occur, it is also important that you try to check if they originate from your local computer environment, which you are responsible for yourself.

## Tutor groups

During the first term you will get the opportunity to work in tutor groups. These consist of 8-10 students. NB! You will be assigned a tutor group during the first face-to-face week. Information about what group you are in will also be found at Lisam, this after the first face-to-face week.

Our ambition is that the group will provide a space for creative discussions and



for developing of your skills in professional intervention in gendered and intersectional processes of transformation in society. To create a fruitful learning environment within the group, all students and teachers need to aim to discuss in a respectful tone and reflect on how to create a less hierarchical and affirmative atmosphere in online discussions as well as in face-to-face meetings.

To make the group a fruitful setting for discussions, it is also important that you as a student take responsibility for the collective learning process, login on time, read and prepare for discussions. All tutor groups are obligated to work in accordance with the Linköping University Code of Honour, which includes the mutual responsibilities of students and employees vis-à-vis each other as well as vis-à-vis the university. The Code of Honour communicates the norms and values that the university's activities should build on:

Students' and employees' joint commitments:

- To respect and support other students and employees.
- To encourage a frank, open and free dialogue on different matters, on methods and arguments used, and on problems and opportunities.
- To contribute to the best of their ability to the development of the university and its good reputation.
- To familiarise themselves with and follow internal regulations and agreements, and contribute to a continuous reappraisal of these so that they are always considered to be adequate.
- To strive to plan ahead in matters that affect the working conditions of others.

Students' commitments:

- To take responsibility for their academic studies as regards specialisation, planning and execution.
- To take responsibility for making use of educational opportunities offered.
- To take responsibility for ensuring that other students' studies are not obstructed.

In more practical terms, the Code of Honour means that you are expected to

show up and participate in the tutor group discussion but also at seminars and other discussions online as well as on campus. You are also expected to read the course literature, carry out your assignments throughout the programme, and read all information and instructions carefully.

## **Tutors**

Each tutor group will be provided with a tutor. The tutor will be there for you and your group to facilitate discussions, provide information, support and feedback. We believe that feedback is a crucial part of learning, particular in online distance learning. When the tutor group meets for the first time during the first face-to-face week, the tutor and students will together discuss the expectations and ways of working within the group. To avoid frustration on the part of both teachers and students, it is important to settle when you as students can expect feedback, what deadlines you need to consider and what you can expect from your tutor. On-line 'office hours', i.e. the hours when your tutor is available, need to be as clear in the virtual class room as they would be had the programme been campus-based.

If you have problems or issues in your group/with your tutor that cannot be resolved, please turn to the course coordinator, director of studies, study counsellor, or the programme director for further help and advice.

## **Co-tutoring**

Some meetings will be discussions with students only. In these discussions one-two students in the group will act as co-tutors and will be responsible for facilitating discussions and lead the work in the group. Our pedagogic ambition is that by involving students as co-tutors in the programme, all students get to practice tutoring and facilitating group discussions as a vital part of intervening. By acting as a co-tutor in your group you may reflect on questions such as: How does one contribute to the learning of others by facilitating discussions? What are the difficulties and challenges of leading group discussions? What creative and explorative methods can be used in group discussions?

## Literature

Each course has a list of literature with readings, which relates to the lectures and contents of the course. The literature is compulsory and should be read intensively. In some courses, there might also be literature that should be read extensively. The list of literature for each course can be found in the key documents for each course. Most of the literature can be reached through the university library for free. Please visit [www.bibl.liu.se/?l=en](http://www.bibl.liu.se/?l=en)

During the first face-to-face period, librarians from the university library will present more information on how to search for literature. You can always contact the library on [biblioteket@liu.se](mailto:biblioteket@liu.se).

Readings that cannot be accessed online via the University Library can be bought online from for example [www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk) (NB. If you're living in Europe, please use Amazon's UK-site and not the US-one – otherwise you may run into problems with customs on books bought from outside of the EU). If you are living in Sweden [www.adlibris.com](http://www.adlibris.com) and [www.bokus.com](http://www.bokus.com) are good online bookstores.

## Reflection diary

In some courses you will be instructed to write *a reflection diary*. In this diary you will write down your impressions and the thoughts and questions that arise from reading the course literature. The diary will both serve as a basis for discussions in your tutor group and co-tutor group and be a log of your reading throughout the programme. The purpose of the diary is to reflect on your on-going reading, explore ideas, raise questions, and to practice critical reflection. You are moreover encouraged to reflect and comment on intersections between the literature, your background and the professional fields in which you are/or will be active. You are free to use the diary as a way to summarize the course literature, but you are encouraged to also reflect on and pose analytical questions to your readings and lectures. The course coordinator and tutor will give you more information on when and how to use the reflection diaries.

In some courses you will share your reflection diary with your tutor group and tutor and get continuous feedback on your writing. There is no right or wrong way to write a reading-reflection diary, however, your writing should be connected to your course readings and the course content. The format of the journal is decided by the course coordinator, so please look at each course's key document for instructions. It is up to you to develop your own style of writing, if you are interested in and want to explore more creative forms of academic writing you are welcome to do so in your reflection diary. Please note, however, that your writing should engage with and reflect your course readings. The tutor group is advised to decide on when the diaries should be made available for your tutor and whether they should be distributed or not to the rest of the group. Please, note that in some courses it is mandatory to write a reflection journal to receive a final grade.

### **Academic writing, referencing and plagiarism**

The students need to follow academic standards of writing in the programme including proper referencing and citations. The students are instructed to use the writing manual that you will find in Lisam. During the first face-to-face week you will get more information on referencing standards.

If you are unsure about how to reference you are also advised to discuss this with the librarians.

### **Face-to-face periods**

The dates for the face-to-face periods will be announced on <https://liu.se/studieinfo/en/program/f7mge/3935>

The face-to-face periods are mandatory and will give you the opportunity to meet your fellow students. For those wishing to improve their English skills, this is a great opportunity to practice. You will also get the chance to meet your teachers in person. Contact the course coordinator if you cannot participate. The format of the face-to-face week is a combination of:

- Lectures
- Discussion seminars and workshops
- Tutorials
- Voluntary social activities

All participants are expected to fully participate in the whole programme of the face-to-face weeks. It is important to plan your face-to-face trips well in advance to ensure you can get to Linköping in time for the start of the face-to-face period.

To make the face-to-face weeks interesting and stimulating occasions for enhancement of your learning process, it is important that you arrive well prepared. Read all instructions and literature carefully and prepare the assignments on beforehand. The process of learning is a joint collaboration between students and teachers and in order to be active during the face-to-face weeks you need to prepare and plan ahead.

If you cannot attend a face-to-face period, you will be given a compensatory assignment, except for the defence and review of theses which must be done in real-time.

## **Examination**

The courses are examined through written assignments and essays as well as oral presentations.

Each course is examined individually and/or in a group. The forms of examination for each course are specified in the course description. The forms of examination include mandatory essays, written examinations, active participation in mandatory internet based and face-to-face seminars as well as mandatory course assignments. The theses are presented and defended at public seminars, chaired by a co-examining teacher, and with a fellow student in the role of opponent/critical discussant.

Failing to participate in mandatory seminars and other instances can be compensated by extra course assignments, except for the defence of the thesis where you must be present at the seminar.

## Submission of examination assignments

An assignment is submitted by the student on Lisam under 'Submissions'. All final assignments have to be handed in anonymously so do not state your name on the exam. Usually, all final assignments are presented at the beginning of the course, in the key document.

The final assignment will be assessed and reported in Ladok within *fifteen working days*. You can also see the grades in Lisam. Please contact the course coordinator or the study director if you have not received any results in Lisam or Ladok after fifteen working days.

In order to get a final grade for each course, you are required to attend all mandatory learning activities.

## Grading and criteria for grading

The programme uses the ECTS standards and grading scale with seven grades from A-F. The first five (A-E) indicates that the exam is passed while Fx and F indicates that the exam is failed. The specific criteria for the grading of the examination assignments of each of the courses can be found in the key information documents of the courses.

Grades cannot be appealed against. However, you are entitled to assessment feedback. If you have questions about examination issues in general, please contact the examination representative at [examination@filfak.liu.se](mailto:examination@filfak.liu.se).

Students failing an exam covering either the entire course or part of the course twice are entitled to have a new examiner appointed for the re-examination. Students who have passed an examination may not retake it to improve their grade.

## Catch-up exams

If you fail an exam or do not submit on time, you have the possibility to do a catch-up. The course coordinator decides a date for the catch-up. Please note that you cannot receive an A if you hand in during the catch-up period. If you still have not passed the exam after these two opportunities, you are welcome to re-register on the course the next time it is given.

## Course Evaluations

After each course you will be asked by email to evaluate the course anonymously. Your opinions, comments and suggestions are of vital importance to us when improving the programme. It is also a way for you to reflect on the programme and your own learning throughout the programme.

The evaluation is mandatory for all programmes at LiU and contains some standard questions from the rector and faculty. It is very important that you answer the evaluations, as it is an indicator of the success of the programme in the eyes of the university. You will sometimes be asked to do evaluations on paper when on campus. Your evaluations cannot affect your grades in any way.

## Academic Degree

After passing all courses on the programme you can apply for a certificate through the Student Portal. You can find more information on the website: <https://www.student.liu.se/examen?l=en&sc=true>

## Contact information

During the first face-to-face week your class will appoint two student representatives. The representatives will be a link between the student group and the programme management. They will take part in programme council meetings. The student representatives will on beforehand ask you if you have any questions which will then be discussed during the programme council meetings and with the programme director. If you have individual questions, please see whom to contact:

*Course registration, reporting of results in Ladok:* Administrator Elisabeth Samuelsson, [elisabeth.samuelsson@liu.se](mailto:elisabeth.samuelsson@liu.se)

*Study guidance:* Study counsellor Ida Ekström, [ida.ekstrom@liu.se](mailto:ida.ekstrom@liu.se)

*Course related questions:* the course coordinator in question

*Examination issues that cannot be solved by the course coordinator:* Study director Edyta Just, [edyta.just@liu.se](mailto:edyta.just@liu.se)

*The programme as a whole (students' work environment, programme contents, degree, study break, other issues that cannot be solved by someone above):*

Programme director Åsa-Karin Engstrand, [asa-karin.engstrand@liu.se](mailto:asa-karin.engstrand@liu.se)