Programme overview

The LUMES programme provides students with the skills necessary to deal with problems surrounding the complex sustainability challenges of the 21st century.

LUMES is an interdisciplinary programme at the Lund University Centre for Sustainability Studies (LUCSUS). The programme focuses on sustainability challenges from a local to global level through combining both social and natural science perspectives. Building on students' previous knowledge and experiences, emphasis is placed on understanding present societal development patterns and the environmental problems they create, as well as approaches for formulating strategies for future sustainable pathways. The foundation of the programme takes an interdisciplinary and holistic approach to sustainability, in order to understand the interactions between social, economic and environmental systems, as well as a focus on the paradigms, concepts and underlying assumptions in which the debates about the interactions are grounded.

LUMES trains generalists who are nonetheless specialised in a particular area.

Unique programme qualities:

The LUMES programme is set in a unique interdisciplinary and internationally excellent educational and research environment, creating a setting that challenges students to broaden personal outlooks and sharpen critical thinking skills. Courses are taught by teachers and researchers from both the social and natural sciences with the aims of creating graduates that are able to grasp, analyse and formulate governance strategies and practices for transformational change. In addition, interpersonal and academic skills are developed through strong emphasis on group work, presentations, academic writing and direct interactions with society.

Since the programme started in 1997, LUMES has had over 800 students from roughly 100 countries, with a graduation rate exceeding 90 per cent.

Programme modules/courses

COURSES AND NUMBER OF CREDITS:

**Semester 1:** Earth Systems Science (10), Social Theory and Sustainability (10), Sustainability Science (10)

**Semester 2:** Governance of Sustainability (7.5), Urban and Rural Systems and Sustainability (10), Economy and Sustainability (7.5), Knowledge to Action (5)

**Semester 3:** In the third semester, students choose a range of elective courses adding up to 30 credits. Course selection changes year to year. Students should select four courses within LUCSUS of 7.5 credits each.

**Semester 4:** Master's degree project (30).

Please see [www.lumes.lu.se](http://www.lumes.lu.se) for further details.

Career prospects

Increasingly, more and more sectors in society, as well as local and national authorities, and non-governmental organisations are recognising the need to address complex social, environmental and economic challenges from a holistic perspective. As such, the interdisciplinary training gained through the LUMES programme opens employment opportunities for a wide array of career paths in various private sectors, governmental, nongovernmental and academic settings.

Our former students are working for transnational companies, international non-governmental environmental organisations, and state authorities as well as international organisations such as the World Bank and the United Nations. Many graduates have also continued with doctoral studies and are now working at universities around the world.

“I came to LUMES wanting to expand my capacities as a global citizen to impact positive change for Ghana. Now, at the end of the programme, I believe I can do just that. LUMES teaches you to see and understand with different eyes, a quality needed more than ever in today’s world where difference seems to be emphasised above all else.”

Abdallah Smith from Ghana
Entry requirements and how to apply

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
At least an undergraduate degree (BA/BSc) with a major (90 ECTS credits) in topics relevant for the programme. LUMES is a transdisciplinary programme and we strive to have an as diverse group of students as possible; therefore, we admit students from all academic backgrounds. Hence, all majors are relevant. We are convinced that sustainability requires all kinds of fields and disciplines and better communication between them. English Level 6 (equivalent to IELTS 6.5, TOEFL 90). See www.lunduniversity.lu.se for details on English levels.

HOW TO APPLY
1. Apply online: Go to the webpage www.lunduniversity.lu.se/environmental-studies. Click on “Apply” and follow the instructions for the online application at the Swedish national application website www.universityadmissions.se. Rank the chosen programmes in order of preference.
2. Submit your supporting documents:
   • General supporting documents: Check what documents you need to submit (i.e. official transcripts, degree diploma /proof of expected graduation, translations, proof of English, passport) and how you need to submit them at www.universityadmissions.se.
   • Programme-specific supporting documents: When applying for this programme, you must also submit a statement of purpose, a CV and letters of recommendation with your application. Instructions can be found at www.lumes.lu.se.
3. Pay the application fee (when applicable).

SELECTION CRITERIA/ADDITIONAL INFO
The selection is based on previous academic performance, relevant work experience, the statement of purpose and letters of recommendation.

TUITION FEES
There are no tuition fees for EU/EEA citizens. For non-EU/EEA citizens, the tuition fee for this programme is SEK 125 000 per year. See www.lunduniversity.lu.se for details on tuition fees.

About LUCSUS
Lund University Centre for Sustainability Science (LUCSUS) is a place for education, research and collaboration on questions related to sustainable development. We combine critical perspectives with solutions-based approaches. At the core of our work is the belief that sustainability is a complex field, best understood and explained through interdisciplinary research in close collaboration with society. Our research focuses on sustainability challenges and is often conducted in international cooperation.

In addition to our international Master’s Programme in Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science (LUMES), we also offer a PhD programme in sustainability science. LUCSUS runs an extensive outreach and impact activities programme to advance the societal dialogue on sustainability. Through this programme, we communicate our research to society, in close collaboration with stakeholders, governments and non-governmental organisations. Learn more about the Centre at www.lumes.lu.se.

About Lund University
Lund University was founded in 1666 and is repeatedly ranked among the world’s top 100 universities. The University has 40 000 students and 7 600 staff based in Lund, Helsingborg and Malmö. We are united in our efforts to understand, explain and improve our world and the human condition.

Lund is the most popular study location in Sweden. Lund University offers one of the broadest ranges of programmes and courses in Scandinavia, based on cross-disciplinary and cutting-edge research. The University has a distinct international profile, with partner universities in around 70 countries.

Lund University has an annual turnover of SEK 8.5 billion, more than half of which is destined for research. Our eight faculties conduct strong research in many different areas, including over thirty research fields in which we are world-leading. Many scientific breakthroughs and pioneering innovations have originated from Lund University.

Learn more at www.lunduniversity.lu.se
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