Lund University, Faculty of Science
Information Sheet Academic year 2017/2018
FOR OUR PARTNERS AND EXCHANGE STUDENTS
Lund University and the Faculty of Science

LUND UNIVERSITY
Lund University was founded in 1666 and is repeatedly ranked among the world’s top 100 universities. The University has 42,000 students and 7,400 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. The University offers one of the broadest ranges of programmes and courses in Scandinavia, based on cross-disciplinary and cutting-edge research. The compact university campus encourages networking and creates the conditions for scientific breakthroughs and innovations. The University has a distinct international profile, with partner universities in over 70 countries.

Lund University has an annual turnover of SEK 8 billion, of which two-thirds go to research. Our research is characterised by both breadth and strength and, according to independent evaluations, over 30 of our research fields are world-leading.

The establishment of the world-leading facilities MAX IV and ESS will have a major impact on future scientific and industrial development in both materials science and life science. MAX IV, which was inaugurated in June 2016, is the leading synchrotron radiation facility in the world, while the European research facility ESS will be the world’s most powerful neutron source when it opens for research in 2023. Adjacent to these facilities, Science Village Scandinavia is also being developed into a meeting place and testing environment for research, education and entrepreneurship.

THE FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Science at Lund University is characterised by first-class research within a variety of areas, from molecular to ecological systems and from biosphere studies to astronomy and high-energy particle physics.

Our research and education are carried out within all major research areas: astronomy, biology, chemistry, earth sciences, environmental sciences, physics and mathematics. The wide spectrum of research, with several world-leading research groups, serves as a platform for outstanding higher education and much of the teaching is carried out in the laboratories connected to the research front line. Our teaching staff are all active researchers, making our students particularly well trained in research methods.

If you want to contribute to sound and sustainable future development, science education at Lund University could be the right choice for you. An education in science is also a gateway to a great number of R&D companies and science parks within the surrounding Öresund region – a hub for high-tech companies and research organisations especially within pharmaceuticals/biotechnology, IT/telecommunication, food, and environment. The Öresund region is at the forefront in Europe within these areas.

The Faculty of Science is highly ranked both in Sweden and internationally for its research and education quality. The faculty is organised into nine departments, gathered in the northern campus area in Lund. There are 900 employees and 3,600 students at the Faculty of Science.

www.lunduniversity.lu.se
www.science.lu.se
Top reasons to study at Lund University

- Sweden’s top-ranked university and ranked 78th in the world (QS 2018).
- The #1 choice for international students studying in Sweden, offering a choice of over 100 international degree programmes, as well as exchange and PhD studies.
- A non-profit, public university founded in 1666 – one of the oldest and broadest universities in northern Europe.
- A top 100 university for graduate employability according to the New York Times.
- Lund is considered the best student city in Sweden with the unique combination of traditional student nations (social clubs), an academic society and student unions organising events and activities year round.
- We attract students from 130 different nationalities, creating a truly international campus.
- Students in Lund are given excellent opportunities for business interaction, as the city hosts an impressive breadth of global companies.
- Lund University is a member of international research-intensive university networks such as LERU and U21.
- Lund is home to over 30 world-leading research environments and is the location for two of Europe’s largest research facilities MAX IV and ESS.
- Sweden ranks 5th best in the world at providing higher education (Universitas 21 ranking).
- The Malmö region (including Lund) is the 4th most inventive in the world (Forbes 2013).
- Swedes have the highest proficiency in English as a second language in the world - English is spoken by 90% of the population.
- Sweden is one of the safest countries in the world and ranked as one of the best in which to live.
- Sweden is ranked as one of the most creative countries in the world, has one of the highest levels of gender equality and is well known for its eco-friendly culture.
Welcome to Lund

Lund is a small, safe city steeped in history and has the healthiest and youngest population in the country. It is also where Lund University’s main campus is located. There are 130 nationalities represented by students studying in Lund, making it a truly international city.

With a population of 110,000, Lund is located in southern Sweden, right next to Denmark. From Lund, Copenhagen (the largest Scandinavian city) is less than an hour away by train or car, whilst Copenhagen Airport (the closest major international airport) is only 35 minutes from Lund. Sweden’s third largest city, Malmö, is just a 10 minute train ride away.

As one of the oldest cities in Sweden, dating back to 990, Lund is a city of contrasts where 1,000 years of history blends with modern knowledge and ideas. The combination of business, students and researchers from around the world has given birth to Lund’s unique character as a city of strong research-based global industries. The Malmö region, including Lund, is the 4th most inventive region in the world.*

The city itself is compact and charming, with picturesque old houses, romantic cobbled streets and beautiful green surroundings. Student cafés, nightlife, a vibrant and intellectually stimulating atmosphere, rich culture and a wide assortment of leisure activities all contribute to making your stay a memorable experience.

The University lies in the heart of the city. In Lund everything is close at hand and within reach on foot or by bicycle, which adds to its appeal. In addition, there is a comprehensive public transport system including buses and trains to transport you in and around Lund, Sweden and nearby Copenhagen.

MORE INFORMATION
Pre-arrival
www.lunduniversity.lu.se/pre-arrival

Housing and living costs

Lund is a very small and compact city. Wherever your housing is located, you are never that far from lectures, whether by foot, bike or bus.

**HOUSING**
Most international students apply for housing through LU Accommodation or use an accommodation agency. LU Accommodation is a part of Student Services at Lund University. Other accommodation agencies include the Student Unions’ housing service BoPoolen and AF Bostäder. Students also find housing through the student nations.

**Corridor rooms**
These single occupancy rooms are along a corridor with other students. Most corridors have 10 to 12 rooms. The rooms usually have an en suite toilet but share a common kitchen area, living room space, laundry room, and in some cases bathrooms. All the shared kitchens are equipped for basic cooking. Rooms are usually furnished with a bed, mattress, desk, chair, bookshelf and basic lighting fixtures. Internet connection is included in most corridor rooms.

**Studio flats**
These are self-contained rooms that combine a living room, bedroom, bathroom and kitchenette into one single unit. The bathroom has a toilet, shower and wash basin. No areas are shared with other students except the laundry room. Flats are usually furnished with a bed, mattress, desk, chair, bookshelf and basic lighting fixtures. Internet connection is included in most corridor rooms.

**LIVING COSTS**
The Swedish currency is the krona. It is abbreviated SEK. To compare, SEK 100 is roughly EUR 11 or USD 13. A typical Swedish student budget is SEK 8 000 per month covering food, housing, clothing, books/materials and leisure time. If you rent accommodation from LU Accommodation you can expect typical rents to range from SEK 3 200–4 800 per month, depending on the specific accommodation you are offered.

**MORE INFORMATION**

**Housing**
www.lunduniversity.lu.se/housing

**Living costs**
www.lunduniversity.lu.se/living-costs

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Health insurance and residence permit

**HEALTH INSURANCE FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS**
Health insurance is free for our incoming students. The cover is restricted to the period of time that the students are in Sweden, as specified in the student’s Letter of Acceptance, and extends only to health claims arising while the student is physically present in Sweden. Students from the EU/EEA should bring their European Health Insurance Card. All students may bring additional health insurance if they want to.

**RESIDENCE PERMIT**
In general, all students from countries outside the EU/EEA need to have a residence permit to study in Sweden. Students who need a residence permit are advised to apply as soon as you receive your admission results/notice of selection results, or your letter of acceptance if you are an exchange student. The permit must be valid and you need to bring it with you when you travel to Sweden. Applications for residence permits are processed by the Swedish Migration Board and not the University.

**MORE INFORMATION**

**Health Insurance for exchange students**
www.lunduniversity.lu.se/student-life/preparing-to-come/health-and-insurance

**Swedish Migration Board**
www.migrationsverket.se/info/studera_en.html
APPLYING FOR COURSES AND ACCOMMODATION

Student exchange and course selection

The coordinator at the home university will receive an online nomination link through which they will list their nominated students.

The students will then receive a link to an online registration form. This is the application for the exchange, and also for the Swedish Language and Orientation Programme.

Scans of the following documents must be attached to the application

- Official academic transcript
- List of ongoing courses
- Statement of Purpose
- Explanation of the home university’s grading system

Please note

- We do not require any paper documents
- Remember to submit the application before the deadline, as we cannot process any late applications
- We require that you take at least half of your credits within the Faculty of Science
- 30 credits correspond to one semester of full-time studies

We encourage the applying students not to apply for too many courses (or credits), and to make sure to pick the correct course code. Also please note that some courses are given simultaneously, and may lead to timetabling conflicts – this is important when prioritising your selected courses.

Student accommodation

Accommodation is applied for separately. The accommodation application is open during the same period as the exchange application. It is up to the student and the student coordinator to remember to apply for accommodation in time. Unfortunately we cannot guarantee housing for our incoming students, but we do what we can to help.

The accommodation application form is found at: www.lunduniversity.lu.se/housing

Relevant dates

APPLICATION PERIODS
Student exchange and course selection
Spring: 1 October – 25 October
Academic Year: 1 April – 25 April
Autumn: 1 April – 25 April

Accommodation for exchange students
Spring: 2 October – 25 October
Academic Year: To be announced
Autumn: To be announced

SEMESTER PERIODS 2018
Spring: 15 January – 3 June
Arrival day: 9 January

Autumn: 3 September – 20 January
Arrival day: 15 August

More relevant dates are available at: www.lunduniversity.lu.se/academic-calendar
COURSES FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Courses offered at the Faculty of Science
Many of our courses are offered in English. Currently, three of our Bachelor’s programmes and all of our Master’s programmes are held entirely in English. The Master’s courses are available to undergraduate students as long as they fulfil the entry requirements.

The students should carefully read the entry requirements for the courses they intend to take and make sure that they will receive credits at their home university for each specific course.

As already mentioned, we require that the students take at least 50% of the credits within the Faculty of Science. They may take courses offered at other faculties, but the possibilities to take courses given at the School of Economics and Management, the Faculty of Medicine, or the Faculty of Engineering (LTH) are limited.

Our science courses:
www.science.lu.se/education

Special Area Studies courses (SAS)
Lund University offers exchange students the opportunity to take additional courses outside their chosen studies in a wide range of subjects, including Swedish culture and society and also European and global issues. All courses are worth 7.5 credits.

More information about the SAS courses:
www.lunduniversity.lu.se/SAS

Swedish language courses
Lund University offers free preparatory Swedish courses to all exchange students.

Swedish is offered within the Swedish Language and Orientation Programme (SUSA). This is a short 3 credit introduction to the Swedish language, and is given to all our exchange students before ordinary courses start. The course also provides a short introduction to Swedish culture and society.

The Swedish Language Courses for Exchange Students (SVEE) are open to all students within exchange agreements (i.e. not to Bachelor’s students, Master’s students, or free movers). The SVEE courses are applied for separately.

More information about language courses:
www.sol.lu.se/sfs/exchange

QUESTIONS ABOUT COURSES?
Questions concerning courses are kindly addressed to the subject’s departmental coordinator (contact information can be found on the next page).

STUDY STRUCTURE, GRADING SYSTEM AND LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

Full-time course load per semester
Full-time study corresponds to 30 credits per semester. Exchange students are required to follow a full-time semester study plan of 30 credits per semester. Examination is usually conducted at the end of each course.

Grading system
As of 2012 Lund University no longer uses the ECTS Grading Scale. Transcripts will contain a grading table stating the percentage of the students having been awarded each of the grades. Incoming students taking courses at the Faculty of Science will be graded according to one of our two scales (which varies between courses):

- U – G – VG (Fail – Pass – Pass with Distinction)
- U – G (Fail – Pass)

More information about the grading system:
www.lunduniversity.lu.se/grading-system

Language requirements
We require proficiency in English or Swedish, depending on the language of the course. We trust the sending universities to assess that the English proficiency of their students is of a satisfactory level for academic studies (B2). Please note that it is of great importance, and in the students’ interest, that their language skills are at a satisfactory level.
Contact information

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