JÖNKÖPING UNIVERSITY
School of Health and Welfare

PROGRAMME SYLLABUS

Master of Science (60 credits) with a major in Occupational Therapy, 60 credits

Magisterprogram i arbetsterapi, 60 högskolepoäng

Programme Code:	HAMIA	Programmestart:	Autumn 2027
Confirmed:	May 26, 2026	Education Cycle:	Second-cycle level
Revised:	Oct 05, 2026		

Title of Qualification

Degree of Master of Science (60 credits) with a major in Occupational Therapy

Filosofie magisterexamen med huvudområdet arbetsterapi

Programme Overview

Scope

The educational programme is intended for students who want to achieve a degree of Master of Science with a major in Occupational Therapy. The programme is organised at second-cycle level and comprises 60 credits. One year of studies at 50% study pace consisting of 40 weeks will earn 30 credits, whereby 0.75 credits correspond on average to one week's study time of at least 20 hours. One year of studies at 100% study pace consisting of 40 weeks will earn 60 credits, whereby 1.5 credits correspond on average to one week's study time of at least 40 hours.

The web-based programme is primarily conducted and examined in English. However, some examinations may be conducted in Swedish, and certain elective courses may also be offered in Swedish. The programme is designed to support participants in developing advanced competencies in relation to their discipline and professional growth throughout their studies. Each course is assessed using a variety of methods, including oral presentations, written reports, projects, and written examinations. In any given course, one or a combination of these methods may be used.

Examinations may be carried out individually or in groups. Details of examinations and their corresponding grading are provided in each course syllabus.

Teaching and learning philosophy

The School of Health and Welfare's teaching and learning philosophy allows the individual to freely pursue knowledge and take responsibility for their own learning and personal development. The school aims to equip the individual with the tools needed to contribute to the development of our changing society.

According to the teaching and learning philosophy:

- the learning environment encourages students to actively pursue knowledge and take responsibility for their own learning

- learning processes and modes of assessment contribute to the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills and promote in-depth learning and understanding

- learning processes promote the development of a professional attitude in interactions with care seekers/patients/clients/users and other professions

- a scholarly approach is an integral part of learning

- clinical placements allow students to observe, analyse, reflect, and gain professional experience and skills.

In practice, the philosophy means that the programmes at the School of Health and Welfare use teaching and learning methods that facilitate the students' learning. Courses must be evaluated on a regular basis,

and the results of the evaluations must be considered when preparing programme and course syllabi and deciding on teaching and learning methods and modes of assessment. The students should take part in this work. The school's management is responsible for regularly reviewing the teaching and learning philosophy.

Main field of study

Occupational Therapy is grounded in knowledge about humans' everyday activities in relation to participation, health, and well-being. It is situated within the health and humanistic-social science domains. Knowledge development in this field occurs through close collaboration with occupational science, health and care sciences, human sciences, technology and other related disciplines. The field encompasses both basic and applied research. Basic research explores how personal and environmental factors influence occupational performance och opportunities to engage in activities in daily life, as well as how these factors promote health.Applied research focuses on how occupation-based interventions can promote health, reduce the impact of illness and occupational deprivation, and support (re)habilitation. Theoretical frameworks and practice models guide professional reasoning, ethical decision-making, and evidence-based practice. Together, these provide the theoretical and practical foundations for implementing occupational therapy interventions.

Objectives

General objectives

According to the Swedish Higher Education Act (SFS 1992:1434, with later revisions), education at second-cycle level shall be based fundamentally on the knowledge acquired by students during first-cycle courses and study programmes, or its equivalent. Second-cycle courses and study programmes shall involve the acquisition of specialist knowledge, competence and skills in relation to first- cycle courses and study programmes, and in addition to the requirements for first-cycle courses and study programmes, shall:

- further develop the ability of students to integrate and make autonomous use of their knowledge,

- develop the students' ability to deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations, and

- develop the students' potential for professional activities that demand considerable autonomy, or for research and development work.

General learning outcomes for a Degree of Master

Aims stated in the Swedish Higher Education Act (SFS 1992:1434 with later revisions) declare that the student who has completed the study programme leading to a Degree of Master (60 credits) in accordance with the Degree Ordinance (Appendix 2, Higher Education Ordinance SFS 1993:100, with later revisions) should:

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including both an overview of the field and specialised knowledge in certain areas of the field as well as insight into current research and development work, and

- demonstrate specialised methodological knowledge in the main field of study.

Skills and ability

- demonstrate the ability to 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 autonomously as well as to plan and, using appropriate methods, undertake advanced tasks within predetermined time frames,

- demonstrate the ability in speech and writing to report clearly and discuss his or her conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences, and

- demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development work or employment in some other qualified capacity.

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the main field of study 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, and

- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

Independent project

A requirement for the award of a Degree of Master (60 credits) is completion by the student of an independent project (degree project) for at least 15 credits in the main field of study.

Programme-specific learning outcomes

In addition to the learning outcomes for a Degree of Master according to the Swedish Higher Education Ordinance (Appendix 2, SFS 1993:100, with later revisions), the Master of Science programme (60 credits) with a major in Occupational Therapy at Jönköping University has the following learning outcomes:

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge and ability to argue for how intersectional and socio-cultural factors affect peoples' health from an occupational perspective, and

- demonstrate knowledge of and critically review how the organisation and leadership of occupational therapy services and development work in different contexts impact sustainability.

- demonstrate knowledge of and critical review of the evidence base for practice of Occupational Therapy.

Skills and ability

- constructively discuss and argue for theory and evidence, both in speech and in writing, in national as well as international contexts.

Judgement and approach

- reflect on and evaluate one's own communicative and collaborative ability and limitations in culturally diverse and international contexts, and

- reflect on ethical issues influencing practice and research.

Contents

The programme can be completed at a 50% study pace by taking courses in the order presented below. The programme can be completed at a 100% study pace by taking courses from semester 1 and semester 3 in parallel, as well as courses from semester 2 and semester 4 in parallel.

Courses

Course changes can occur, as long as they do not substantially affect the programme's content and learning goals.

Mandatory Courses

Semester	Course Name	Credits	Main field of study	Specialised in	Course Code
1	An Occupational Perspective of Health I	7.5	Occupational Therapy	A1N	HA1R22
1	Occupational Therapy, Evidence-based Practice I	7.5	Occupational Therapy	A1N	HE1R23
1	Theory of Science and Scientific Method	15	Occupational Therapy	A1N	HTSR23
2	Occupational Therapy, Theory I	7.5	Occupational Therapy	A1N	HA1R26
2	Occupational Therapy, Thesis I	15	Occupational Therapy	A1E	HO1T27

Elective Courses

Semester	Course Name	Credits	Main field of study	Specialised in	Course Code
2	Introduction to Artificial Intelligence in Health and Welfare: Fundamentals and Applications	7.5	Biomedical Laboratory Science, Nursing,	A1F	H2ITAI

			Occupational Therapy, Social Work		
2	Team Collaboration in Changing Organisations	7.5	Quality Improvement and Leadership within Health and Welfare	A1N	H2TIFO

Entry Requirements

The applicant must hold the minimum of a Bachelor´s degree in Occupational Therapy, (i.e., the equivalent of 180 ECTS credits at an accredited university) or the equivalent. Proof of English proficiency is required.

Continuation Requirements

Specific requirements for continuing studies in the programme are described in each course syllabus.

Qualification Requirements

A Degree of Master of Science (60 credits) in Occupational Therapy is awarded after the student has completed course requirements of 60 credits in accordance with the current programme syllabus, of which at least 30 credits must be at an advanced level in Occupational Therapy, including an independent degree project (thesis) of 15 credits. In addition, a Bachelor's degree or a professional qualification of at least 180 credits, or an equivalent foreign degree, is required.

Degree certificate

The degree certificate will be issued after formal application from the student after completion of education, provided that the examination results are registered in the study documentation system.

Other Information

Grade

In accordance with Jönköping University's regulations, the course syllabus shall specify which grades are used. Grades shall be determined by one of the teachers specifically appointed by the university (the examiner). For course assessment, the School of Health and Welfare uses the grading scales pass/fail, pass with distinction/pass/fail and A/B/C/D/E/FX/F. Which grading scale used for which course is shown in the current syllabus.

Teaching and examination

For each course in the education there is a special syllabus which is a legally binding document. The teaching and examination forms for the courses given within the program are shown in the syllabus. More detailed regulations and information about examination and grading can be found in the Regulations and guidelines for first, second and third cycle education at Jönköping University, in the respective syllabus and on respective learning platform.

Equal opportunities at Jönköping University

As an education provider, Jönköping University wants to offer an inclusive study environment where all students are treated in an objective and professional manner, where everyone is given equal opportunities. Jönköping University accepts under no circumstances that discrimination, harassment, sexual harassment and offensive differential treatment occur.

Disciplinary and Expulsion Committee at Jönköping University

Students are obliged to follow the regulations governing the activities at Jönköping University. The Disciplinary and Expulsion Committee at Jönköping University can decide on disciplinary measures.

Credit Transfer

A student that has passed component parts of a university programme at another Swedish or foreign university, or who has acquired the equivalent knowledge and skills in another way, can – following evaluation – receive credits for this within the framework of their studies at the School of Health and Welfare. The application for credit is applied for by the student on a special form according to the

instructions on the form. The application must be received no later than five weeks before the start of the course in order to be processed in good time before the start of the course. For students who are new to Jönköping University and who want to take credit for courses close to the start of the course, the application for this must be made as soon as possible after registration.

Approved leave from studies

A study leave can only be applied for and granted from educational programs, not from courses. A study leave can only be granted after the student has completed at least one course with a passing grade, otherwise the student is directed to apply to the program again. A study leave is requested by the student on a special form and can only be granted due to illness, parental leave, military service or another special reason. A student who has been granted a study leave must notify the study counsellor of re-entry no later than 15 October before the spring semester and 15 April before the fall semester.

Withdrawal from studies

The student is recommended to contact the study counsellor before interrupting studies. Cancellation of studies from a program or course is entered by the student according to the instructions.

Exemption

When a student does not meet established eligibility requirements before the start of the semester and/or course, exemption is only granted in cases where Jönköping University has caused the student to be unable to complete their studies according to the programme syllabus