

GENERAL SYLLABUS FOR EDUCATION AT THIRD-CYCLE LEVEL IN EDUCATION

FFN - Chair 2016-02-10

1 Subject Area

Education as an academic area focuses on the way people, in light of their background and experience, change the understanding of the world around them and how they act in it. Research is conducted in relation to the conditions, content, actors and contexts within various social arenas where learning, school education, teaching and impact processes unfold. The research specialises in different learning processes in formal and non-formal contexts.

2 Programme curriculum

Education at third-cycle level in Education that concludes with a Degree of Licentiate comprises a total of two years' full time study (120 credits) and consists of a study programme that gives 45-60 credits and a licentiate thesis of 60-75 credits.

Education at third-cycle level in Education that concludes with a Degree of Doctor comprises a total of four years' full time study (240 credits) and consists of a study programme that gives 90-120 credits and a doctoral thesis that gives 120-150 credits.

An individual study plan is drawn up for every third-cycle student (according to a fixed model) where the study programme is specified in detail. The individual study plan shall be followed up at least once a year by a third-year student and his/her supervisor then approved by the Head of Department, as delegated by the Board.

3 Eligibility and selection

3.1 General eligibility requirements

An individual fulfils the general eligibility requirements for the third-cycle educational programme when he or she 1) has completed a second-cycle degree, 2) has completed higher education courses worth at least 240 credits, of which at least 60 are for second-cycle courses, or 3) in some other manner, in this country or abroad, has acquired the equivalent qualifications. The faculty board may permit an exemption from the requirement of basic eligibility in the case of an individual applicant, if there are special grounds Chapter 7, Section 39 of the Higher Education Ordinance (2010:1064). Also refer to the local guidelines laid down in the Admission Rules for Third-cycle Education at Luleå University of Technology.

3.2 Specific eligibility requirements

Main subject/main field of study Education 80 credits/120 HE credits of which 30 HE credits, second-cycle.

Good command of oral and written communication in Swedish and English.

3.3 Selection

Selection from among applicants meeting the requirements shall be made with reference to their ability to benefit from the education. The mere fact that an applicant is deemed able to receive credit towards the education for previous education or working activities may not alone give the applicant precedence over other applicants in the selection process, Chapter 7, Section 41 of the Higher Education Ordinance (2010:1064). Also refer to local guidelines laid down in the Admission Rules for Third-cycle Education at Luleå University of Technology.

In the selection of third-cycle education in Education, the following applies to the selection criteria:

- Knowledge relevant for this project
- Degree project quality
- Formulated research plan

4 Examinations included in the education

The education consists of courses and an academic thesis. Examinations included in third-cycle programmes are graded Pass or Fail. Course and licentiate thesis grades are decided by specially appointed teachers (examiners). Doctoral thesis grades are decided by a specially appointed grading committee.

4.1 Courses

Compulsory courses to an extent of at least 30 HE credits in education, philosophy of science, research methodology and research ethics.

Goal attainment is tested by means of the form of examination specified in the syllabus.

4.1.1 Recognition of prior studies

As specified in the local guidelines laid down in the Admission Rules for Third-cycle Education at Luleå University of Technology.

4.2 Academic thesis

An academic project in the form of a dissertation/thesis in Education shall be presented as a homogenous, cohesive academic work (monograph) or a brief summary – comprehensive summary – of academic essays (compilation thesis) that the third-cycle student has written alone or together with another person or persons.

För licentiatuppsats och doktorsavhandling som består av vetenskapliga artiklar fastställs antalet vetenskapliga, peer reviewed granskade artiklar, samt antalet som ska vara accepterad för publicering vid fastställande av doktorandens individuell studieplan. Doktoranden kan med fördel skriva någon/några artiklar med handledare, men bör vara ensamförfattare till minst en av artiklarna.

Thesis manuscripts shall be presented at one or more research seminars or be subjected to equivalent review through the agency of the department.

The licentiate thesis is defended orally at a public licentiate seminar and is graded Pass or Failed. When the thesis is graded both the content of the thesis and the defence of the thesis are taken into consideration. The grade of the licentiate thesis is decided by an examiner as delegated by the Head of Department.

The doctoral thesis is defended orally at a public disputation and is graded Pass or Failed. When the thesis is graded both the content of the thesis and the defence of the thesis are taken into consideration. Grades for a doctoral thesis should be decided by a grading committee, specifically designated for each thesis.

5 Degree

In Education, a third-cycle student who has been admitted to a Degree of Doctor has the possibility to take a Degree of Licentiate after completing one part giving at least 120 credits of the education that will be concluded with a Degree of Doctor.

5.1 Degree objectives

As specified in the Qualifications Ordinance (Higher Education Ordinance, Annex 2 – Degree Ordinance). See also the Annex below.

5.2 Degree title

A third-cycle student who takes a Degree of Licentiate in Education receives the degree title of Licentiate of Philosophy.

A third-cycle student who takes a Degree of Doctor in Education normally receives the degree title of Doctor of Philosophy.

Requests for another degree title are made according to established guidelines.

6 Entry into effect and interim regulations

2010-12-08:

General syllabus for Education applies for admission of third-cycle students admitted after the date established in the general syllabus.

2016-02-10:

The previous general curriculum (2010-12-08 FFN) will cease to apply for third-cycle students who are admitted to studies at third-cycle level after 10/02/2016. The amendment to Section 3.2 (Specific eligibility requirements); 3.3 (Selection); 4.1 (courses). If agreed between the third-cycle student and the supervisor, the new general syllabus (ref. LTU 3252-2015) may be used as a steering document for third-cycle students who, on the date of decision, have not achieved the requirements for a licentiate degree/equivalent number of HE credits (120). It must then be documented in the third-cycle student's individual study plan which general curricula that applies.

ANNEX

Goal for education at third-cycle level (Qualifications Ordinance, [Higher Education Ordinance, Annex 2](#)):

1 Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Licentiate 120 credits (higher education credits), the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the field of research including current specialist knowledge in a limited area of this field as well as specialised knowledge of research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.

For a Degree of Doctor 240 credits (higher education credits), the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate broad knowledge and a systematic understanding of the research domain, together with deep and current specialist knowledge within a limited area of this research domain and
- demonstrate familiarity with academic methodology in general and with the specific research domain's methods in particular.

2 Competence and skills

For a Degree of Licentiate 120 credits, the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate the skills to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake a limited piece of research and other qualified tasks within predetermined time frames in order to contribute to the formation of knowledge as well as to evaluate this work,
- demonstrate the skills in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society in general, and
- demonstrate the skills required to participate autonomously in research and development work and to work autonomously in some other qualified capacity.

For a Degree of Doctor 240 credits, the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate the capacity for scholarly analysis and synthesis as well to review and assess new and complex phenomena, issues and situations autonomously and critically,
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake research and other qualified tasks within predetermined time frames and to review and evaluate such work,
- demonstrate through a dissertation the ability to make a significant contribution to the formation of knowledge through his or her own research,
- demonstrate the ability in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings authoritatively in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society in general and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge and

- demonstrate the capacity to contribute to social development and support the learning of others both through research and education and in some other qualified professional capacity.

3 Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Licentiate 120 credits, the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate skills to conduct ethical research assessment in their own research,
- demonstrate specialised 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 skills to identify the need for further knowledge and to take responsibility for one's knowledge development.

For a Degree of Doctor 240 credits, the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate intellectual autonomy and disciplinary rectitude as well as the ability to make assessments of research ethics, and
- demonstrate specialised insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used.

4 Academic thesis

For a Degree of Licentiate 120 credits, the third-cycle student shall:

- have completed an academic thesis of at least 60 higher education credits.

For a Degree of Doctor 240 credits, the third-cycle student shall:

- have completed an academic thesis (doctoral thesis) of at least 120 higher education credits.