

# YOUR GUIDE TO STUDIES AT UMEÅ UNIVERSITY SWEDEN

2025/2026



UMEÅ UNIVERSITY

FOUNDED IN **1965**

**60** NATIONALITIES  
ARE REPRESENTED

OVER **37,000** STUDENTS

**4** FACULTIES

OVER **45** INTERNATIONAL  
DEGREE PROGRAMMES

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# Welcome to Umeå University

**Umeå University is one of the leading comprehensive universities in Sweden. Our Creative environments attract students, researchers, teachers and collaborating partners nationally and globally.**

**We strive to provide our students and staff with unique opportunities for professional and personal development, whilst serving society with new knowledge.**

## **HIGHLY INTERNATIONAL**

Umeå University offers a wide-range of one and two-year Master's degree programmes – taught entirely in English. Every year, we host around 2,000 international students, teachers and researchers from all over the world.

## **MODERN FACILITIES AND A CREATIVE ATMOSPHERE**

Renowned for its modern and creative learning environments, including its large Main Campus and Umeå Arts Campus by the riverside, with buildings all within close walking distance. There are three on-campus libraries, high-speed wi-fi, and plenty of study spaces for collaborative and interactive group work.

## **WORLD CLASS RESEARCH**

Research at the university is innovative and extends over many disciplines and scientific fields. We have rich opportunities for anyone interested in interdisciplinary research. We carry out top-level international research within such areas as ageing and population studies, infection biology, plant and forest biotechnology and global health.

## **SATISFIED STUDENTS**

Umeå University has for several consecutive years received top marks by international students in surveys for higher education institutions. The majority of previous students would recommend applying to Umeå University.



# Life on Campus

Umeå University has two campuses located in Umeå – Campus Umeå and Umeå Arts Campus. At our university there are many possibilities for you to make new friends, learn from students with different backgrounds, engage in students' rights and join associations that meet your interests. Every week, there is something going on for you to take part in.

## JOIN THE BUDDY PROGRAMME

The Buddy Programme is a multicultural community engaging hundreds of international and domestic students. Buddies are students at Umeå University who volunteer to introduce you to the Swedish way of life. The programme offers the opportunity to take part in a wide variety of social activities, and to explore Swedish traditions.

## EXPLORE BILDMUSEET

In seven floors of striking architecture, Bildmuseet, displays exhibitions of international contemporary art. As a visitor you are invited to guided tours, artist talks, lectures, film screenings, and other events with free admission.

## VISIT CULTURE ON CAMPUS

Several times each semester, an event is arranged on campus for students and staff. The events include concerts, theatrical performances, author visits, neo circus, dance and more. Always at lunchtime and free of charge.

## JOIN A STUDENT UNION OR ASSOCIATION

Being a part of a student union or association is one of the ways you can make your studies at our university more rewarding and fun. Student unions work towards improving the quality of your education, and creating a fun leisure time, while student associations connects people with a common interest. There is for example associations for student radio, international affairs and theatre.

## MOVE YOUR BODY

Campus Umeå is home to one of Europe's largest indoor sports and fitness facilities – IKSU Sport. On their 22 000 m<sup>2</sup> you can enjoy climbing, swimming, ball and racket sports, group training and more.

**Tip no. 1!** A student union membership gives you a discount on your IKSU Sport membership.

**Tip no. 2!** The university also has an outdoor gym on campus – free to use!

## CAMPUS UMEÅ:

- Fills an area equivalent to 34 football pitches.
- Has a cozy park with a pond in the centre.
- Offers many study places and group rooms.
- Close to a large sports centre, an outdoor gym and a track and field arena.

## ARTS CAMPUS:

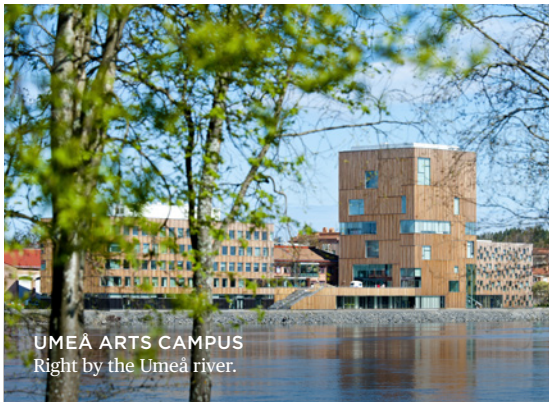
- Exciting architecture right by the river.
- Bildmuseet – the university's museum of contemporary art and visual culture.
- Creative learning environments.
- Close to several parks and the city centre.



**PLAY BRÄNNBOLL**  
Typical Swedish sport,  
similar to rounders.



**STUDENT WELCOME FAIR**  
Get to know Umeå University.



**UMEÅ ARTS CAMPUS**  
Right by the Umeå river.

# Master's Programmes

ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026

## ARCHITECTURE, DESIGN AND ART

[Advanced Product Design](#)  
[Architecture and Urban Design](#)  
[Fine Arts](#)  
[Interaction Design](#)  
[Transportation Design](#)

## COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

[Environmental Archaeology](#)  
[Philosophy](#)

## ECONOMICS, LAW AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Accounting and Auditing \(one year\)](#)  
[Business Development and  
Internationalisation](#)  
[Constitutional Law and Human Rights  
\(one year\)](#)  
[Crisis Management and Peacebuilding](#)  
[Digital Management and Innovation](#)  
[Economics](#)  
[Finance](#)  
[Management](#)  
[Marketing \(one year\)](#)  
[Mathematical Statistics](#)  
[Sustainability Reporting and Financial  
Analysis \(one year, double degree\)](#)

## SOCIAL SCIENCE, BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE AND ETHICS

[Cognitive Science](#)  
[Constitutional Law and Human Rights  
\(one year\)](#)  
[Crisis Management and Peacebuilding](#)  
[Digital Management and Innovation](#)  
[Earth Science](#)  
[Economics](#)  
[Gender, Justice and Society  
\(one year, online\)](#)  
[Human Computer Interaction  
and User Experience](#)  
[Human Geography with specialisation  
in Geographical Information Systems  
\(GIS\) \(one year\)](#)  
[Mathematical Statistics](#)  
[Political Science](#)  
[Psychology with Specialisation in  
Health Psychology \(one year\)](#)  
[Spatial Planning and Sustainability](#)  
[Tourism and Sustainable Development](#)

## NATURAL SCIENCE, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

[Chemistry](#)  
[Earth Science](#)  
[Ecology](#)  
[Environmental Science with focus on  
Sustainable Development](#)  
[Human Computer Interaction  
and User Experience](#)  
[Molecular Biology](#)  
[Physics](#)  
[Plant and Forest Biotechnology](#)  
[Robotics and Control](#)

Our master's programmes are normally two years of full-time studies. If not, it's stated above.

## TECHNOLOGY, IT AND MATHEMATICS

[Architecture and Urban Design](#)  
[Artificial Intelligence](#)  
[Cognitive Science](#)  
[Computing Science](#)  
[Digital Management and Innovation](#)  
[Human Computer Interaction  
and User Experience](#)  
[Mathematical Statistics](#)  
[Mathematics](#)  
[Molecular Biology](#)  
[Physics](#)  
[Plant and Forest Biotechnology](#)  
[Robotics and Control](#)  
[Spatial Planning and Sustainability](#)

## HEALTH CARE, MEDICINE AND SPORTS

[Biomedical Engineering](#)  
[Biomedicine](#)  
[Cognitive Science](#)  
[Digital Management and Innovation](#)  
[Psychology with Specialisation in  
Health Psychology \(one year\)](#)  
[Public Health](#)  
[Public Health \(one year\)](#)  
[Public Health with a Specialisation in  
Health Economics](#)  
[Sports Medicine with Specialisation  
Exercise Physiology \(online\)](#)

## ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

You fulfill the basic eligibility for the Master's programmes if you have a Bachelor's degree of at least 180 ECTS from an internationally recognised university in the required main field. Some of the programmes also have further requirements, for example credits in the specified subject area.

**English:** For most master's level courses and programmes, the requirement is the equivalent of the Swedish upper secondary course English 6. All applicants can meet the requirement with the required score on an internationally recognised English test. Upper secondary and university studies in some countries can also meet the requirement.

[WWW.UMU.SE/EN/ENTRY-REQUIREMENTS](http://WWW.UMU.SE/EN/ENTRY-REQUIREMENTS)

READ MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAMMES AT: [UMU.SE/STUDY](http://UMU.SE/STUDY)

# Undergraduate Programmes

ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026

Architecture Programme (five years)

International Business and Economics Programme (three years)

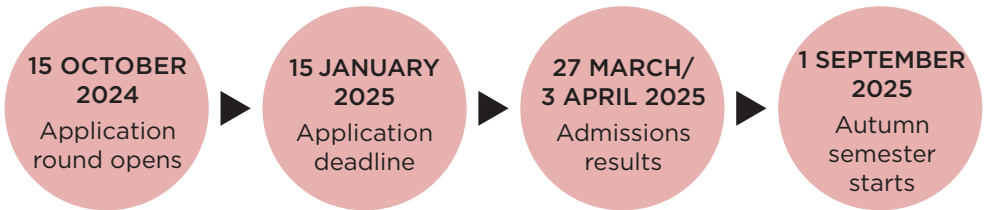
Life Science (three years)

**English:** For courses and programmes at the bachelor's level, the general entry requirement for English is studies equivalent to the Swedish upper secondary course English 6. All applicants can meet the requirement with the required score on an internationally recognised English test. Upper secondary and university studies in some countries can also meet the requirement.

[WWW.JMUVSE/EN/ENTRY-REQUIREMENTS](http://WWW.JMUVSE/EN/ENTRY-REQUIREMENTS)

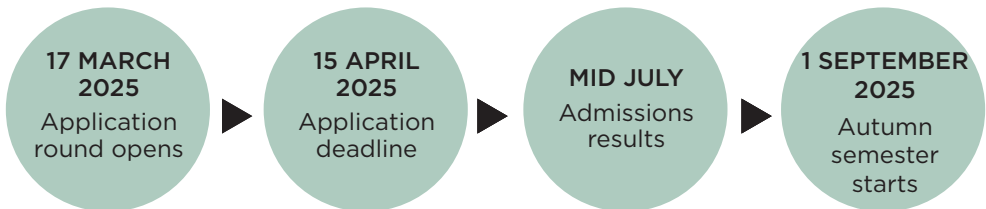
## Important Dates

### First admission round for all students



### Second admission round for EU, EEA and Swiss citizens

*EU, EEA and Swiss citizens do not need to apply for residence permits, and can therefore also apply in the second admission round.*



*Please note that some of the programmes have their own application deadlines. Information can be found on the programme webpage.*



# Swedish Study System

The academic year in Sweden is divided into two semesters: autumn and spring. Courses are taught with a variety of methods; lectures, lab work, discussion seminars, group or individual assignments. Sweden regularly ranks as one of the top countries in the world for non-native speakers of English which means you don't have to speak Swedish to study here.

## TEACHING STYLES

The teaching methods often requires that the students are active in the learning process and take responsibility for their own studies. Examinations can require that you summarise, evaluate and analyse to draw your own conclusions instead of short answers directly from a text book.

## ASK QUESTIONS AND DEBATE

The academic lifestyle is relaxed and friendly with an informal dress code. The relationship between staff and students is non-authoritarian and democratic - the professors are addressed by their first names. Asking questions and debate is norm.

## LEARN SKILLS FOR A GLOBAL CAREER

Sweden ranks among the world's most innovative nations. During your studies you will learn to be creative, how to combine theory and practice, and how to navigate complex situations. You will also learn how to bring out the best in everyone and solve complex issues as a team - vital skills for your global career.

## FOCUS ON ONE THING AT A TIME

You generally only take one course at a time. One full week of study is estimated to be approximately 40 hours of lectures, group work, seminars and self-study. Exams are not given at the end of the semester, but rather at the end of each course.

## STUDY EXAMPLES

One semester equals 30 credits equivalent to ECTS.

Alt 1	7,5 credits	7,5 credits	7,5 credits	7,5 credits
Alt 2	15 credits		15 credits	
Alt 3	7,5 credits	7,5 credits	15 credits	
Alt 4	15 credits		7,5 credits	7,5 credits
Alt 5	30 credits			

# Tuition Fees and Scholarships

In general, citizens of countries outside of the European Union (EU), European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland are required to pay tuition fees for their studies in Sweden. Each year, Umeå University offers scholarships to talented and high-achieving students.

## TUITION FEES

With a few exceptions, all citizens of countries outside of the European Union (EU), European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland are required to pay application and tuition fees for education at Swedish universities.

The tuition rates for full-time studies range from SEK 96,600 per year to SEK 395,700 per year, depending on the field of study.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Umeå University offers scholarships in conjunction with the autumn semester admission, to academically talented and high-achieving students. Selected candidates receive a full or partial waiver of the tuition fee.

Additionally, we cooperate with the Swedish Institute regarding their scholarship programmes. Scholarship opportunities can be found on their website.



# Student Housing

Umeå University Accommodation Service offers student housing to exchange students and tuition fee-paying students. Both Swedish and international students live in the student corridors.

## SINGLE-OCCUPANCY

A student corridor is usually comprised of 6-10 single-occupancy rooms with a shared kitchen and a common room. All rooms have a bathroom and most of the rooms have a shower.

## CLOSE TO CAMPUS

Housing areas are within 20 minutes walking distance or 10 minutes bicycle distance of campus.

## FURNISHED

Furnished with: a bed with mattress, duvet and pillow, desk, desk chair, bookcase, drawers and wardrobe.

## INTERNET INCLUDED

Internet is included in the rent (you need a LAN cable or a wi-fi-router). On campus you have free access to wi-fi.



## COST OF LIVING

Food	SEK 2,700
Accommodation	SEK 4,700
Local Travel	SEK 550
Phone/internet	SEK 400
Hobby/Leisure/Miscellaneous	SEK 1,964
<b>Est. Monthly Budget</b>	<b>SEK 10,314*</b>

*\*Please note that this is an average monthly budget for living in Sweden as a student. The cost of living is generally slightly lower in Umeå. For example a single room in Umeå costs around 3,900 SEK per month.*

*Students applying for a residence permit to Sweden need to present a bank statement showing they have the sufficient funds to support themselves during their study period.*

## “I’ve learned a lot about the different paths to pursue after my studies”



Joost Vossers  
(Netherlands)

Programme: Master’s  
Degree in Artificial  
Intelligence

**What made you interested in applying for the programme?** I always felt some kind of connection with Sweden. My previous university hosted an annual exchange with a Swedish university and after hearing about it I joined the organising committee for this event. When the time came to begin with my Master’s, Sweden seemed like the natural place to start looking. The AI programme in Umeå is diverse and lets you choose your own path. There is a big focus on the ethical application of technologies which is something I’m really interested in!

**What do you think about the programme and the teachers/teaching?** The programme is awesome! I’ve learned a lot about the different paths to pursue after my studies. Because of the small scale, the teachers are really involved with students, and they want to hear from us to improve their courses based on what we are interested in.

**What do you like to do in Umeå during your free time?** There’s so much to do! During summer I like to go outside into the beautiful nature surrounding the city. There are big forests with almost always a lake close by, and you can follow one of the many hiking trails that are available. In the winter, I like to get some skis which I take to the same hiking trails that have been transformed into paths

for crosscountry skiing. I can also really enjoy sitting I can also really enjoy sitting inside my home or a cozy café with a good book and some fika.

## “It’s been a pretty cool journey of learning and self-discovery!”

Silvia Estela Morales  
Gutiérrez(Guatemala)

Programme: Master’s  
degree in Cognitive  
Science



**What made you interested in applying for the programme?** Considering how incredibly complex the human brain and the human experience is, I was really into the idea of this programme’s interdisciplinary approach. I mean, we’re not just feelings and how we were raised, right? We are a jumble of everything around us. This programme seems all about digging into “the messy reality” of what makes us tick. It is a lot of food for thought, and I’m all for that!

**What do you think about the programme and the teachers/teaching?** Here I’ve had two of the best teachers I’ve had in 7 years of university studies, great teaching attitude and great feedback. The study environment in Sweden is more laid-back. I was initially freaked out about not getting things right and failing, but I quickly realized that it’s all good here. If you don’t understand something during the lecture it’s perfectly fine, you’ll have space to discuss with classmates and professors without any worries in the seminar. It’s been a pretty cool journey of learning and selfdiscovery!

# Home of the World's Most Satisfied International Students

Umeå University has been ranked as the top university worldwide for student satisfaction, living, and support in the 2023 International Student Barometer (ISB).

Our international students praise the university's creative learning environment, high quality of life in Umeå, and outstanding support services. Umeå University was also first in Sweden and Europe for career

goal preparation. This global survey, featuring responses from students at 137 universities worldwide, highlights our strong commitment to excellence.



**Living  
Support  
Overall Satisfaction**



\*According to International Student Barometer 2023 (wave 2). More about the ISB results [↗](#)

# Experience Umeå

**Umeå is known as a culture city, a festival city, an innovative city, the best city of sports, and the city of birches. The Umeå region is composed of Umeå and five neighbouring municipalities. The region has a unique span in which nature activities, culture, history and city life easily can be combined.**

## CITY OF CULTURE

You will find museums, a sculpture park, theatres, an opera with professional symphony orchestra and an international literature festival, the music festival Brännbollsyran, and much more. As proof of the city's vibrant cultural scene, Umeå was named European Capital of Culture in 2014. It has also been appointed the Best Sports City of Sweden in 2018, 2020 and 2021.

## CITY OF INNOVATION

Umeå is home to many growing companies in fields such as biotechnology, environment and energy, medicine, IT, modern forestry and engineering industries. The city has an effective and inclusive support system for innovation with world class academic and business incubators. It lies in Umeå's DNA to

challenge perceptions, and to create a reflexive and stimulating work environment.

## EASY TO GET AROUND

Two central train stations, an airport, and bus stops all over the city makes travelling to and from, and in Umeå really easy! Umeå is also a cycling city - with a cycle super highway and 260 kilometres of paved bicycle paths that takes you pretty much everywhere.

## OUTDOORS AND INDOORS

With it's proximity to both sea and forest, Umeå is perfect for outdoor activities. Get ready to experience the Northern Lights, the arctic landscape, and long and bright summer nights. Take the opportunity to go fishing, skiing, hiking, cycling or visit one of our many outdoor training facilities around Umeå.



**SPORTS MINDED**

Umeå has been named the best city for sports in Sweden; in 2018, 2020 and 2021.

**LISTEN**

The Metoo monument, Listen, by Camilla Akraka is situated on the town square.

**PRODUCTION**

International Office, Umeå University 2024

**PHOTOGRAPHERS**

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