

## **Qualification rules for education at first, second and third cycle at the Swedish Defence University**

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## **1. National provisions on qualifications**

The national provisions on qualifications are included in the Swedish Higher Education Act (1992:1434 with amendments) and the Higher Education Ordinance (1993:100 with amendments). The qualifications that the Swedish Defence University has the right to issue can be found in the Ordinance for the Swedish Defence University (2007:1164).

The above statutes can be read on the Swedish Parliament's website.

### **1.1 The Swedish Higher Education Act**

Chapter 1 section 10(a) states that qualifications shall be awarded in the first, second or third cycle. The Government issues regulations on the qualifications that may be awarded and the cycle in which they shall be awarded.

### **1.2 The Higher Education Ordinance**

Chapter 1 section 4 states that for the purposes of this ordinance, a student is one who is admitted to and follows higher education and a doctoral student is one who is admitted to and follows third-cycle education, unless otherwise specified.

Chapter 6 section 9 states that a student who fulfils the requirements for the award of a qualification shall, upon request, be provided with a certificate.

Chapter 6 section 10 states that in the certificate the higher education institution shall indicate the title of the qualification, the cycle in which it was awarded, if the qualification forms part of a joint degree as laid down in Section 17 of Chapter 1 of the Higher Education Act, the first and second-cycle courses taken for award of the qualification, and at which higher education institution the courses or corresponding third-cycle courses and programmes have been completed. A translation of the title of the qualification to one or several languages may be included in the certificate.

Chapter 6 section 10 a states that a certificate shall be accompanied by a diploma supplement that describes the study programme and its place in the educational system. The Swedish Council for Higher Education may issue more detailed specifications of the contents of a diploma supplement as laid down in item 1 above.

Chapter 6 section 11 states that if a certificate is awarded for a study programme undertaken at more than one higher education institution, it shall be awarded by the institution at which it was completed by the student. This does not apply, however, if the higher education institutions involved have reached some other agreement.

Chapter 6 section 33 states that the qualification descriptors for doctorates lay down that an approved doctoral thesis is required for the award of these degrees. The doctoral thesis shall be presented and defended orally in public. A faculty examiner (opponent) shall be appointed for this presentation.

Chapter 12 section 2 states that students who have been refused their request to obtain degree certificates have the right to appeal this decision to the Higher Education Appeals Board.

### **1.3 Ordinance for the Swedish Defence University**

Chapter 4 section 1 states that the only qualifications that may be awarded for first, second and third cycle courses and study programmes at the Swedish Defence University are those listed in the annex to this ordinance. This annex also lays down in which cycle and in which field a specific qualification shall be awarded and the requirements to be fulfilled for a specific qualification (qualification descriptor). The annex also contains provisions on the title of the qualifications and their translations.

Chapter 4 section 2 a states that Swedish Defence University may take part in educational cooperation as laid down in the second paragraph of Section 17 of Chapter 1 of the Higher Education Act only if this cooperation is based on a written agreement. Agreements of this kind may be reached by the Swedish Defence University with

1. a university or higher education institution subject to the Higher Education Act,
2. an independent course provider entitled to award a qualification pursuant to the Act Concerning Authority to Award Certain Qualifications, or
3. a higher education institution outside Sweden that is not a physical individual.

Chapter 4 section 2 b states that in addition to the provisions laid down in Section 11b of Chapter 6 of the Higher Education Ordinance the Swedish Defence University may reach an agreement pursuant to Section 2a only if the courses and programmes cannot lead to the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science in Military Studies as defined in the annex to this ordinance.

## **2. Local provisions at the Swedish Defence University**

In addition to national provisions, each institution can decide on local rules and regulations, within the framework of the national provisions.

Qualification rules at the Swedish Defence University comprise both national and local provisions for education at first, second and third cycle.

### **2.1 First and second-cycle**

- For all the qualifications issued at the Swedish Defence University, at least one course shall have been examined with approved results at the Swedish Defence University unless there is a decision on credit transfer.
- Only courses at higher education level with completed course requirements and finishing with a final grade can be included in the qualifications.
- In the event that courses with common content are to be included in the same degree, credits will be deducted for the common content.
- A course that is part of a qualifying degree at first-cycle of a maximum of 180 credits cannot be used in a general degree at second-cycle for the same student.
- Two or more qualifications can only be issued if all qualification requirements in each main area are met and separate degree projects are carried out
- The degree certificate lists courses passed, credits, grades, grading scale, dates and any credit transfer. Courses conducted at a university other than the Swedish Defence University are marked in the degree certificate.
- The entry requirements for education do not guarantee that the course requirements for qualifications at the Swedish Defence University are fulfilled and that a qualification can be issued.

### **2.2 Third cycle-level**

- Doctoral students shall complete their education at third-cycle with the course requirements and specialisation specified in the general syllabus for third-cycle programme to which the doctoral student has been admitted.

### **2.3 Degree certificate**

A student or doctoral student who fulfils the requirements for the award of a qualification shall, upon request, be provided with a certificate.

- The application for degree certificates is made individually and the assessment of qualifications is assessed against the requirements set. The student or doctoral student is responsible for ensuring that a complete application is submitted.

- At the first and second-cycle, the decision on degree certificates is taken by the person to which the right has been delegated.
- At the third-cycle, the decision on degree certificates is taken by the vice-chancellor.
- The date for issuing a certificate is the date of decision.
- All degree certificates at the Swedish Defence University are issued in both Swedish and English and are accompanied by a diploma supplement in English. The diploma supplement describes the education and its place in the Swedish education system.
- The degree certificate at first and second-cycle shows the title of qualification and the cycle at which the degree has been completed, as well as the date of issue and date of completed studies.
- The degree certificate at third-cycle shows the title of qualification, the subject area and the cycle at which the degree has been completed, as well as the date of issue and date of defence of doctoral thesis. The degree certificate at third-cycle also shows the title of the doctoral thesis.
- Amendment of the content of the certificate after it has been issued can only be done in accordance with the Swedish Defence University's rules for the handling of a request for a new certificate after special examination (Ö 595/2018).

### **3. Qualifications, titles of qualifications and specified requirements at first-cycle at the Swedish Defence University**

#### **3.1 General qualifications**

The Swedish Defence University applies Swedish designations to the qualifications and their English translations in accordance with recommendations of the Association of Swedish Higher Education Institutions (SUHF).

##### **3.1.1 Higher education diploma**

At the Swedish Defence University, the main specialisation of the higher education diploma is indicated by the title of qualification including the main field of study.

Högskoleexamen med inriktning mot...  
*Higher Education Diploma with specialisation in ...*

##### **3.1.2 Degree of Bachelor**

At the Swedish Defence University, the main specialisation of the Degree of Bachelor is indicated by the title of qualification in Swedish including philosophy and the main field of study.

Filosofie kandidatexamen i...  
*Degree of Bachelor of Arts/Science in...*

##### **3.1.3 Specified requirements for general qualifications at first-cycle**

Specified requirements for general qualifications at first-cycle at the Swedish Defence University in addition to the national qualification descriptions found in the annex to the Ordinance for the Swedish Defence University (2007:1164).

##### **Specified requirements for Higher Education Diploma, 120 credits**

- For a higher education diploma, studies of 60 credits are required in one of the Swedish Defence University's specified main field of study.
- An independent work (degree project) of at least 7.5 credits in the main field of study shall be included in the qualification.

##### **Specified requirements for Degree of Bachelor, 180 credits**

- For a Degree of Bachelor, at least 90 credits are required in the main field of study with progressive specialisation. Of the progressive specialisation in the main field of study, at least 30 credits shall be at level G2 (according to SUHF's designations for courses' places in the progressive specialisation in the main area).
- A degree project of at least 15 credits in the main field of study shall be included in the qualification.

### **3.2 Professional qualification**

The Swedish Defence University applies the degree names specified in the annex to the Ordinance for the Swedish Defence University (2007:1164) and its English translation.

Officersexamen

*Degree of Bachelor of Science in Military Studies*

#### **3.2.1 Specified requirements for professional qualification**

Specified requirements for professional qualification at first-cycle at the Swedish Defence University in addition to the national qualification descriptions found in the annex to the Ordinance for the Swedish Defence University (2007:1164).

#### **Specified requirements for Degree of Bachelor of Science in Military studies, 180 credits**

- The requirements for each specialisation are shown in the programme syllabus.

## **4. Qualifications, titles of qualifications and specified requirements at second-cycle at the Swedish Defence University**

### **4.1 General qualifications**

The Swedish Defence University applies Swedish designations to the qualifications and their English translations in accordance with recommendations of the Association of Swedish Higher Education Institutions (SUHF).

#### **4.1.1 Degree of Master (60 credits)**

At the Swedish Defence University, the main specialisation of the Degree of Master (60 credits) is indicated by the title of qualification in Swedish including philosophy and the main field of study.

Filosofie magisterexamen i...  
*Degree of Master of Arts/Science (60 credits) in...*

#### **4.1.2 Degree of Master (120 credits)**

At the Swedish Defence University, the main specialisation of the Degree of Master (120 credits) is indicated by the title of qualification in Swedish including philosophy and the main field of study.

Filosofie masterexamen i...  
*Degree of Master of Arts/Science (120 credits) in...*

#### **4.1.3 Specified requirements for general qualifications at second-cycle**

Specified requirements for general qualifications at second-cycle at the Swedish Defence University in addition to the national qualification descriptions found in the annex to the Ordinance for the Swedish Defence University (2007:1164).

##### **Specified requirements for Degree of Master, 60 credits**

- For Degree of Master (60 credits), at least 30 credits are required with specialisation in the main field of study.
- A degree project of at least 15 credits in the main field of study shall be included in the qualification.
- In addition, a maximum of 15 credits can be included in courses at first-cycle.

##### **Specified requirements for Degree of Master, 120 credits**

- For Degree of Master (120 credits), at least 60 credits are required with specialisation in the main field of study.
- A degree project of at least 30 credits in the main field of study shall be included in the qualification.
- In addition, a maximum of 15 credits can be included in courses at first-cycle.

## **5. Qualifications, titles of qualifications and specified requirements at third-cycle at the Swedish Defence University**

### **5.1 General qualifications**

The Swedish Defence University applies the following Swedish designations and their English translations.

#### **5.1.1 Degree of Licentiate**

At the Swedish Defence University, the main specialisation of the Degree of Licentiate is indicated by the title of qualification including the subject area.

Licentiatexamen i...

*Degree of Licentiate in...*

#### **5.1.2 Degree of Doctor**

At the Swedish Defence University, the main specialisation of the Degree of Doctor is indicated by the title of qualification including the subject area

Doktorsexamen i...

*Degree of Doctor in...*

#### **5.1.3 Specified requirements for general qualifications at third cycle level**

Specified requirements for general qualifications at third cycle level at the Swedish Defence University in addition to the national qualification descriptions found in the annex to the Ordinance for the Swedish Defence University (2007:1164).

#### **Specified requirements for Degree of Licentiate, 120 credits**

- Knowledge requirements for the degree of licentiate shall be fulfilled according to the general syllabus for third-cycle programme to which the doctoral student has been admitted.

#### **Specified requirements for Degree of Doctor, 240 credits**

- Knowledge requirements for the Degree of Doctor shall be fulfilled according to the general syllabus for third-cycle programme to which the doctoral student has been admitted.