



Local Degree Ordinance concerning first-, second- and third-cycle education

at Blekinge Institute of Technology

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This is a translation of the officially adopted Lokal examensordning vid BTH. Should there be any discrepancy between the Swedish original and the English translation in this document, the Swedish original prevails.

Description

This document regulates which degrees can be awarded at Blekinge Institute of Technology (BTH).

Recipients are the institutes academic staff, administrative staff, decision makers and students.



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1. General information

This document regulates which degrees can be awarded at Blekinge Institute of Technology (BTH).

The present Degree Ordinance also includes the following appendices:

- Appendix 1a: List of the main fields of study which lead to a general degree at BTH
- Appendix 1b: List of professional degrees and their titles at BTH
- Appendix 2: Mathematics requirements in connection with a degree in Science in Engineering
- Appendix 3: Criteria for main fields of study at BTH

The above appendices may be revised separately from the main document.

2. General rules and regulations

Following national regulations govern the Degree Ordinance at Blekinge Institute of Technology at first-, second- and third cycle: the Higher Education Act (1992:1434) and the Higher Education Ordinance (1993:100). Annex 2 of the Higher Education Ordinance (Qualification Ordinance) states which degrees may be awarded in the first-, second- and third cycle, and the requirements to be satisfied for each degree.

3. General degrees

The outcomes and requirements for general degrees can be found in its entirety in Annex 2 of the Higher Education Ordinance. In the following subsections are parts of the Higher Education Ordinance quoted.

3.1 Higher Education Diploma (Högskoleexamen)

From the Higher Education Ordinance:

A Higher Education Diploma is awarded after the student has completed the courses required to gain 120 credits with a defined specialisation determined by each higher education institution itself.

A requirement for the award of a Higher Education Diploma is completion by the student of an independent project (degree project) in the main field of study.

Specific requirements determined by each higher education institution itself within the parameters of the requirements laid down in this qualification descriptor shall also apply for a Higher Education Diploma with a defined specialisation.

Local regulation:

A Higher Education Diploma requires at least 60 credits within the defined specialisation/main field of study, of which at least 7.5 credits are comprised of an independent project (degree project) (level G1E)¹.

Higher Education Diplomas are only awarded in accordance with the programme syllabi adopted by BTH or as general degrees in accordance with Appendix 1a: List of the main fields of study which lead to a general degree at BTH.

3.2 Degree of Bachelor (Kandidatexamen)

From the Higher Education Ordinance:

A Degree of Bachelor is awarded after the student has completed the courses required to gain 180 credits in a defined specialisation determined by each higher education institution itself, of which 90 credits are for progressively specialised study in the principal field (main field of study) of the programme.

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

Specific requirements determined by each higher education institution itself within the parameters of the requirements laid down in this qualification descriptor shall also apply for a Higher Education Diploma with a defined specialisation.

Local regulations:

A Degree of Bachelor requires at least 30 credits (level G2) in the main field of study, of which the independent project (degree project) is to comprise at least 15 credits (level G2E)¹. Bachelor's degrees are only awarded in accordance with the programme syllabi and plans for qualification adopted by BTH or as general

¹ For more information, see Rules and guidelines for course syllabi, latest version.

degrees in accordance with Appendix 1a: List of the main fields of study which lead to a general degree at BTH.

3.3 Degree of Master (60 credits) (Magisterexamen)

From the Higher Education Ordinance:

A Degree of Master (60 credits) is awarded after the student has completed the courses required to gain 60 credits with a defined specialisation determined by each higher education institution itself, of which at least 30 credits are for specialised study in the principal field (main field of study) of the study programme.

In addition the prior award of a Degree of Bachelor, a Degree of Bachelor of Fine Arts, a professional or vocational qualification of at least 180 credits or a corresponding qualification from abroad is required.

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.”

Specific requirements determined by each higher education institution itself within the parameters of the requirements laid down in this qualification descriptor shall also apply for a Higher Education Diploma with a defined specialisation.

Local regulation:

A Degree of Master (60 credits) requires at least 30 second-cycle credits in the main field of study, of which the independent project (degree project) is to comprise at least 15 credits (level A1E²). A maximum of 15 first-cycle credits can be included in the degree. Master's degrees (60 credits) are only issued in accordance with the programme syllabi and plans for qualification adopted by BTH or as general degrees in accordance with Appendix 1a: List of the main fields of study which lead to a general degree at BTH.

The degree of Master (60 credits) may not include courses from the qualifying degree. This applies to all students admitted as of autumn semester 2014.

² For more information, see Rules and guidelines for course syllabi, latest version

3.4 Degree of Master (120 credits) (Masterexamen)

From the Higher Education Ordinance:

A Degree of Master (120 credits) is awarded after the student has completed the courses required to gain 120 credits with a defined specialisation determined by each higher education institution itself, of which at least 60 credits are for specialised study in the principal field (main field of study) of the study programme.

In addition the prior award of a Degree of Bachelor, a Degree of Bachelor of Fine Arts, a professional or vocational qualification of at least 180 credits or a corresponding qualification from abroad is required.

A requirement for the award of a Degree of Master (120 credits) is completion by the student of an independent project (degree project) for at least 30 credits in the main field of study. The degree project may comprise less than 30 credits, however no less than 15 credits, if the student has already completed an independent project in the second cycle for at least 15 credits in the main field of study or the equivalent from a programme of study outside Sweden.

Specific requirements determined by each higher education institution itself within the parameters of the requirements laid down in this qualification descriptor shall also apply for a Higher Education Diploma with a defined specialisation.

Local regulations:

A Degree of Master (120 credits) requires at least 60 second-cycle credits in the main field of study, of which the independent project (degree project) is to comprise at least 30 credits (level A2E)³. A maximum of 30 first-cycle credits can be included in the degree. Master's degrees (120 credits) are only awarded in accordance with the programme syllabi and qualifying plans adopted by BTH or as general degrees in accordance with Appendix 1a: List of the main fields of study which lead to a general degree at BTH.

The degree of Master (120 credits) may not include courses from the qualifying degree. This applies to all students admitted as of autumn semester 2014.

³ For more information, see Rules and guidelines for course syllabi, latest version

3.5 Degree of Licentiate (Licentiatexamen)

From the Higher Education Ordinance:

A Degree of Licentiate is awarded

either after a third-cycle student has completed a study programme of at least 120 credits in a subject in which third-cycle teaching is offered,

or after a third-cycle student has completed one part comprising at least 120 credits of a study programme intended to conclude with the award of a PhD, if a higher education institution decides that a Degree of Licentiate of this kind may be awarded at the institution.

For a Degree of Licentiate, the third-cycle student shall have been awarded a pass grade for a research thesis of at least 60 credits.

Specific requirements determined by each higher education institution itself within the parameters of the requirements laid down in this qualification descriptor shall also apply for a Degree of Licentiate with a defined specialisation.

Local regulations:

See the General syllabus for each third-cycle subject.

3.6 Degree of Doctor (Doktorsexamen)

From the Higher Education Ordinance:

A Degree of Doctor is awarded after the third-cycle student has completed a study programme of 240 credits in a subject in which third-cycle teaching is offered.

For the Degree of Doctor the third-cycle student shall have been awarded a pass grade for a research thesis (doctoral thesis) of at least 120 credits.

Specific requirements determined by each higher education institution itself within the parameters of the requirements laid down in this qualification descriptor shall also apply for a Degree of Doctor with a defined specialisation.

Local regulations:

See the General syllabus for each third-cycle subject.

4. Degree prefix

Degrees are awarded with one of the following prefix, which are described in the relevant programme syllabus and general syllabus adopted by BTH, as well as in Appendix 1a: List of the main fields of study which lead to a general degree at BTH and Appendix 2: Mathematics requirements in connection with a degree in Science in Engineering.

The prefix for third-cycle is normally philosophy (teknologie). The prefix must be clarified in the individual study plan.

In Swedish	In English
Ekonomie kandidatexamen	Degree of Bachelor of Science in Business and Economics
Filosofie kandidatexamen	Degree of Bachelor of Science/Social Science/Arts
Teknologie kandidatexamen	Degree of Bachelor of Science
Ekonomie magisterexamen	Degree of Master of Science in Business and Economics (60 credits)
Filosofie magisterexamen	Degree of Master of Science/Social Science/Arts (60 credits)
Teknologie magisterexamen	Degree of Master of Science (60 credits)
Filosofie masterexamen	Degree of Master of Science (120 credits)
Teknologie masterexamen	Degree of Master of Science (120 credits)
Filosofie licentiatexamen	Degree of Licentiate of Philosophy
Teknologie licentiatexamen	Degree of Licentiate of Philosophy
Filosofie doktorexamen	Degree of Doctor of Philosophy
Teknologie doktorexamen	Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

5. Professional degrees

The outcomes and requirements to obtain a professional degree are stated in Annex 2 of the Higher Education Ordinance. In the following subsections are parts of the Higher Education Ordinance quoted.

The professional degrees awarded by BTH are listed in Appendix 1b: List of professional degrees and their titles at BTH. Professional degrees are defined by the learning outcomes stated in the relevant programme syllabus. Professional degrees are only awarded in accordance with the programme syllabi adopted by BTH.

5.1 Degree of Bachelor of Science in Engineering (Högskoleingenjörsexamen)

From the Higher Education Ordinance:

A Degree of Bachelor of Science in Engineering is awarded after the student has completed the courses required to gain 180 credits. A requirement for the award of a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Engineering is completion by the student of an independent project (degree project) for at least 15 credits.

Local regulations:

A Degree of Bachelor of Science in Engineering requires at least 15 credits in mathematics or applied mathematics and at least 15 credits in courses with a clear focus on skills training. This includes courses based on projects and group work. The degree must also include a first-cycle independent project (degree project) of at least 15 credits.

5.2 Degree of Master of Science in Engineering (Civilingenjörsexamen)

From the Higher Education Ordinance:

Degree of Master of Science in Engineering is awarded after the student has completed the courses required to gain 300 credits. A requirement for the award of a Degree of Master of Science in Engineering is completion by the student of an independent project (degree project) for at least 30 credits.

Local regulations:

A Degree of Master of Science in Engineering requires at least 30 credits in mathematics or applied mathematics and at least 15 credits with a clear focus on proficiency. This includes project courses and courses implemented in groups. An independent project (degree project) for at least 30 second-cycle credits has to be included in the degree.

Requirements for students admitted as of autumn semester 2024:

For the Degree of Master of Science in Engineering, at least 45 credits are required in mathematics and natural sciences, in addition to this at least 180 credits in subjects central to the field of technology. The degree must include at least 90 credits at advanced level, of which at least 60 credits must be in subjects central to the field of technology, of which at least 30 credits consists of an

independent project (degree project). In addition, at least 6 credits in environmental and sustainable development, and at least 6 credits in programming are required.

5.3 Degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Sjuksköterskeexamen)

From The Higher Education Ordinance:

A Degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing is awarded after the student has completed the courses required to gain 180 credits. A requirement for the award of a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing is completion by the student of an independent project (degree project) for at least 15 credits.

BTH does not set any local degree requirements for the Degree of Bachelor of Nursing, except for the requirements in Appendix 2 in The Higher Education Ordinance.

5.4 Postgraduate Diploma in Specialist Nursing (Specialistsjuksköterskeexamen)

From The Higher Education Ordinance:

A Postgraduate Diploma in Specialist Nursing with a defined specialisation is awarded after the student has completed the courses required to gain 60 credits, with the exception of the specialisation in Primary Health Care when the diploma is awarded after the student has completed the courses required to gain 75 credits. In addition registration as a qualified nurse by Socialstyrelsen [Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare] is required.

A requirement for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma in Specialist Nursing is completion by the student of an independent project (degree project).

Local regulations:

The degree must include an independent project (degree project) of at least 7.5 credits.

6. Issuing of degrees

The Higher Education Ordinance states that students who meet the qualification requirements shall be awarded a degree certificate from the higher education institution upon request.

Degrees are issued no later than 40 working days after BTH has received a complete application and after decision of fulfilled qualification requirements.

The degree certificate is to state the name of the degree, name of the courses, number of credits, grade, date, grading scale and, if applicable, previous studies or experience credited towards the degree.

Only completed courses may be included in the degree. Modules or course components can only be included in a degree if they are clearly definable.

Courses with fully overlapping content cannot be included in the same degree. If the course content only partially overlaps, the courses can be included in the same degree, provided that a deduction of credits corresponding to the overlap is made in the degree certificate.

Courses that are eligible for a credit transfer towards a degree are to be equivalent to the level of Swedish higher education.

Degree certificates from BTH are to include a translation into English.

Degree applications are processed, finalized, and decided in Ladok by BTH's degree officers.

7. Appealing a rejected application for a degree certificate

Students who have had their application for a degree rejected can appeal to the Higher Education Appeals Board (ÖNH). The appeal must be made in writing and within three weeks of the date the student received notification of the decision.

Appeal sent by e-mail:

registrator@bth.se

Appeal sent by ordinary mail:

Överklagandenämnden för högskolan

Registrator

Blekinge Tekniska Högskola

371 79 Karlskrona

Note: The Higher Education Appeals Board is a government authority that is responsible for trying cases of appeals against certain decisions made within



higher education and post-secondary vocational education and training. The Higher Education Appeals Board is the final instance in these cases, that is, the board's decisions cannot be appealed. See www.onh.se.

8. Interim regulations

Students who began their studies before 1 July 2007, and have completed all the courses that are to be included in their degree no later than 30 June 2015, can apply to be awarded a degree in accordance with the degree ordinance that applied at the time.