

**PHYSIOTHERAPY
PROGRAMME
180 credits**



Linköping University
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Programme syllabus

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Programme syllabus for
Physiotherapy programme
180 credits

Scope and level

Scope: The physiotherapy programme comprises 180 credits and fulfilled course requirements results in a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy. The National Board of Health and Welfare issues certification.

Level: First-cycle level.

Language: Swedish; parts of the programme may be carried out in English.

Outcomes

The Swedish Higher Education Act chapter 1 section 8 (SFS 1992:1434) stipulates that first-cycle courses and study programmes shall be based fundamentally on the knowledge acquired by pupils in national or specifically designed study programmes in the upper-secondary schools, or its equivalent. The Government may, however, permit exceptions for courses and study programmes in the fine, applied or performing arts.

First-cycle courses and study programmes shall develop:

- the ability of students to make independent and critical assessments
- the ability of students to identify, formulate and solve problems autonomously, and
- the preparedness of students to deal with changes in working life.

In addition to knowledge and skills in their field of study, students shall develop the ability to:

- gather and interpret information at a scholarly level
- stay abreast of the development of knowledge, and
- communicate their knowledge to others, including those who lack specialist knowledge in the field. Ordinance (2009:1037).

The Swedish Higher Education Act chapter 1 section 9 (SFS 1992:1434) stipulates that second-cycle courses and study programmes 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. Enacted (2006:173).

National outcomes for the Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy

In accordance with the Higher education ordinance, annex 2 (SFS 1993:100): For Degree of Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy the student shall have demonstrated the knowledge and skills required for registration as a physiotherapist.

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy the student shall

- demonstrate knowledge of the disciplinary foundation of the field and awareness of current research and development work as well as the links between research and proven experience and the significance of these links for professional practice
- demonstrate knowledge of social circumstances that influence the health of individuals and groups, and
- demonstrate knowledge of the relevant statutory provisions.

Competence and skills

For a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to undertake physiotherapeutic interventions autonomously and in collaboration with individuals as well as the ability to initiate and participate in health promotion, treatment, habilitation and rehabilitation measures at individual, group and community level
- demonstrate the ability to apply his or her knowledge to deal with different situations, phenomena and issues on the basis of the needs of individuals and groups
- demonstrate the ability to inform and instruct different audiences and also to undertake advisory tasks
- demonstrate the ability to present and discuss in speech and writing interventions and treatment outcomes with those concerned and to document them in accordance with the relevant statutory provisions
- demonstrate the capacity for teamwork and cooperation with other professional categories, and
- demonstrate the ability to review, assess and use relevant information critically and to discuss new data, phenomena and issues with various audiences and so contribute to the development of the profession and professional practice.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy the student shall

- demonstrate self-awareness and the capacity for empathy
- demonstrate the ability to assess interventions using a holistic approach to individuals informed by the relevant disciplinary, social and ethical aspects and taking particular account of human rights
- demonstrate the ability to adopt a professional approach to clients or patients, those close to them and other groups, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge and undertake ongoing development of his or her skills.

Independent project (degree project)

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

Local outcomes for all educational programmes at the Faculty of Health Sciences in Linköping

In addition to this, the following outcomes apply for the education programmes at the Faculty of Health Sciences in Linköping:

The student shall after completion of the education,

- have gained inter-professional competence in order to promote, among other things, promote his or her employability,
- with problem-based learning as a pedagogical tool, be able to define problems, search and evaluate knowledge in order to solve issues that arise in the future execution of his or her profession,
- have gained a gender awareness that is manifested in the future practice of his or her profession, and
- have gained knowledge and an understanding of other countries international relations from a health perspective in order to promote quality and international mobility.

Local outcomes for the physiotherapy programme

The student shall after completion of the education:

- have acquired knowledge and skills in order to initiate and participate in work which promotes health, work-life oriented rehabilitation, insurance investigations and work-place evaluations/ergonomics,
- exhibit knowledge of evidence and improvement work in order to be able to initiate and work with development,
- have acquired knowledge and skills which form the basis of satisfying the needs of children and youths with functional disorders or sicknesses, elderly people with physical and psychological functional disorders, people who suffer from respiratory and circulatory problems, people who suffer from mental ill-health and psychosomatic problems, people who suffer from musculoskeletal problems and people with neurological diseases.

Basic pedagogical philosophy

Problem-based learning (PBL) is the pedagogical philosophy and method used with the physiotherapy programme in Linköping. In PBL, the student focuses on participation in the learning process.

The student himself or herself is responsible for evaluating what he or she needs to learn, this is achieved both through theoretical and practical education by analysing and handling situations which are related to the physiotherapist's profession. The student

searches for knowledge, sifts, applies and assesses this knowledge. The student also evaluates his or her own learning.

The teaching is designed to stimulate and support the student's development of professional competence and independence in learning. Situations linked to the profession are used as a basis for dealing with problems and in order to create motivation and a sense of purpose to the studies. Students work together in small groups, partly to practice cooperation and partly in order to contribute to each other's learning. The teacher applies PBL, partly as a facilitator by challenging and following the students' learning and providing feedback, and partly by contributing knowledge in a way that stimulates and complements the students' learning.

Main subject area

The subject of physiotherapy encompasses the knowledge and study of the movement and activity of individuals with regard to the ability to be aware of, make use of, control and use their bodies in a purposeful manner taking into respect the requirements which the physical and social environment makes on individuals. The research carried out on movement and activity relates to the development of new knowledge in relation to health and ill-health, attitudes, cultural aspects, movement and activity during an individual's life cycle as well as historical and social perspectives as regards activity and movement. The scientific basis is primarily made up of the science of movement. It deals with biomechanical, physiological and psychological factors and a view of movement, including specific impairment to movement functions caused by disease and injury. Interaction (communication/interplay) and learning (didactics/pedagogy) are important parts of the subject.

Content and structure of the programme

The physiotherapy programme consists of six terms of full-time studies, making up a total of 180 credits. Physiotherapy is the primary field of discipline of the education and consists of a minimum of 95 credits. Other disciplines include human biomedicine, sociology and behavioural science. Optional courses are available at the end of the education.

Apportionment of credits:

Physiotherapy	95 credits
Human biomedicine	40 credits
Sociology and behavioural science	30 credits
Optional courses	15 credits

The varying disciplines are integrated into each course. Central concepts within the discipline physiotherapy include movement, health and interaction. Movement is the goal as well as the means in physiotherapy. Health is studied from a holistic perspective and the relationship between movement and health/ill-health is emphasised. Interaction includes both relationships among people and also the relationship people have with the environment. Theory and practice within physiotherapy are a prerequisite for each other and throughout the education there is an interaction between theory, skills development and placements. All terms include placements within different areas. Together with other

educational programmes at the Faculty of Health Sciences, various aspects of the education are integrated with other educational programmes to develop inter-professional skills.

Courses

All courses except for the optional courses are at first-cycle level. The optional courses may be at first-cycle level or at second-cycle level (Master's level).

The programme includes the following courses:

Course 1. Pre-requisites for motion, health and interaction I, 30 credits

The course's main content is basic study of human movement and activity on the basis of normal functionality. Field studies are included. The course starts off with the course Health, Ethics and Learning I which is carried out in integrated groups which forms a part of all programs at the Faculty of Health Sciences. It includes the interaction between man – the world around him and health conditions from an ethical, existential, sociological, psychological and biological perspective.

Course 2. Pre-requisites for motion, health and interaction II, 30 credits

The content of this course deals with the continued study of human movement and activity on the basis of normal function from a physical, mental and social perspective. The course also includes the study of functional problems, in particular of the respiratory system and the circulatory system. Placement is included.

Course 3. Physiotherapy and disability I, 30 credits

The content of the course deals with the study of human movement on the basis of functional problems of, in particular, the musculoskeletal system, the nervous system, the respiratory system and the circulatory system. Studies also include mental ill-health and psychosomatic problems. Placement is included.

Course 4. Physiotherapy and disability II, 30 credits

The content of the course deals with the continued study of human movement on the basis of functional problems of, in particular, the musculoskeletal system, the nervous system, the respiratory system and the circulatory system. Studies also include mental ill-health and psychosomatic problems. Placement is included.

Course 5. Physiotherapy in a society perspective, 30 credits

This course includes physiotherapy including work tolerance from a physical, psycho-social and health and economic perspective, the physiotherapist's role as a pedagogue and the physiotherapist's role within different areas of activity within society. Placement is included. The course also includes the integration of Health, Ethics and Learning II including placement at educational departments. This part of the course is carried out in integrated groups with other educational programmes within the Faculty of Health Sciences, and is a continuation of Health, Ethics and Learning I.

Course 6. Degree project in Physiotherapy, 15 credits

This course includes independent degree work within the discipline physiotherapy.

Optional courses, 15 credits

The optional courses shall form a part of the constituent disciplines within the education and may consist of theory as well as some form of placements (7.5 credits). The courses shall be relevant to the student's future role as a professional physiotherapist. Otherwise, see course syllabus for each course.

An example of the overall aspects dealt with in depth during the education are, in addition to the central concepts which include movement, health and interaction - pain, ergonomics, communication, knowledge of improvement, leadership and scientific methodology.

Academic level

The academic level (Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy) is achieved when the student has fulfilled course requirements for 180 credits, consisting of a minimum of 95 credits with successive intensification within the primary discipline physiotherapy. The student shall, within the framework of the course requirements have completed a thesis work of a minimum of 15 credits within the discipline physiotherapy. Progression in the education is described as increased depth/scope and complexity.

Course syllabi

There is a course syllabus for each individual course in the programme.

Quality assurance

A continuous assessment of the various parts of the education takes place which can lead to certain changes being made to the structure and content.

Examination

Assessment takes place continuously during the education and is based on the constituent compulsory parts of the course. Compulsory parts are described in the course syllabus.

Examination takes place primarily at the end of each course/term. The examination is meant to provide feedback to the student and the education as regards the student's achievements.

The results of the examination determine whether the student has acquired sufficient knowledge and skills within the area in question.

Examination of theoretical and practical knowledge takes place individually or in groups. The course syllabus describes how examination is carried out.

Number of examination opportunities

The following applies to courses with a limited amount of examination opportunities:

Examination types that require considerable resources are limited to a total of five times. I.e. a student who does not receive a pass grade during the ordinary examination has the possibility of taking the examination a further four times. After that, no more examination opportunities will be available. The student has the right to undertake other

forms of examination an unlimited amount of times. Re-examination dates shall be specified at the beginning of every term. The student has the right to request support after two failed examinations.

Changing examiner

A student who has undergone two examinations for a course or part of a course and who has not achieved a pass grade, has the right to request another examiner, unless there are special reasons for not doing so.

Placement

If the student receives a fail grade following the placement, he or she may do this part of the course once again. The re-examination date/time is judged from case to case but may only take place when the tutor and the supervisor are available.

Scope of re-examination and new assessment of placement

For re-examination and reconsidered grading of the placement, the same rules apply as with the ordinary examination/first grading.

Applying for examinations

Prior to each course, instructions are provided as to how to apply for the examination. Otherwise, "Regulations regarding examination and examiner" shall apply, in accordance with the decision taken by Linköping University, Ref: LiU 1109/00-40.

Term attempts

The student is allowed to take the same term twice.

Supporting and dissuading students

The students' development during their studies is evaluated continuously so that help can be provided to those that develop problems during the education. The student shall together with a study adviser be given the possibility to discuss measures which can contribute to the conditions required to complete the education. If there are any doubts as to a student's possibilities of completing the education and achieving a pass result, including his or her suitability to exercise the profession, the teacher and/or supervisor concerned via the person responsible for the programme shall initiate an investigation with regard to these questions. An investigation of this type should take place as soon as possible during the study period. This should be carried out by the programme committee responsible for the education in consultation with the teachers and the student concerned. If this evaluation leads to dissuasion from continued studies, the student shall be given the possibility to discuss alternative educational programmes with the study adviser. When the programme committee deals with the matter of dissuasion a student, the ordinary student representative is replaced by someone from the Consensus group.

Grade

A grade is awarded at the end of each course and is based on an evaluation as to whether the educational objectives of the course syllabus have been achieved.

The grades Pass and Fail are awarded.

Diploma and degree titles

Students who have completed the programme with pass grades in all courses are awarded a *Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy* (in Swedish Sjukgymnastexamen) after which the National Board of Health and Welfare will issue a certificate. On the diploma it shall state that only the grades Pass and Fail are awarded for the education.

Eligibility regulations

Basic eligibility:

Basic eligibility regulations according to the Higher Education Ordinance chapter 7 sections 5-7.

Special eligibility:

Besides basic eligibility, special eligibility is required in accordance with the following:

Knowledge equating to: (standard eligibility F.1.2)

Mathematics B

Social studies A

Sport and Health A 1)

General science B or Physics A + Chemistry A + Biology A or certain nursing courses in accordance with VHS's regulations, see www.vhs.se

Lowest grade pass/grade 3 for the course/subject

1) Sport and Health A/3rd grade HSENT or 2nd grade from 2-year course program.

Alternatively for those who have not undergone a course of study or programme at an upper secondary school – proof of regular participation in a sport activity in an organised form for a period of a minimum of one year after compulsory school attendance.

Threshold rules

Course content builds on previous courses and courses must be completed in the right order.

The following threshold rules apply for eligibility to proceed in the programme:

Eligibility requirements for admission to:

- course 2: a pass grade, tutorial group work from course 1.
- course 3: pass grade from course 1, a pass grade from tutorial group work, a pass grade from placement from course 2.
- course 4: pass grade from course 2, a pass grade from tutorial group work, a pass grade from placement from course 3.
- course 5: pass grade from course 3, a pass grade from tutorial group work, a pass grade from placement from course 4.
- course 6: pass grade from course 3, a pass grade from tutorial group work, a pass grade from placement from course 4.
- optional courses, pass grade, a pass grade from tutorial group work, a pass grade from placement from course 4. Otherwise, see course syllabus for each course.

The student who does not fulfil requirements regarding the threshold rules can apply for dispensation with the director of studies/programme committee.

Interim regulations and other instructions

This programme syllabus applies from the autumn term of 2007. The programme syllabus for the course *Prerequisites for motion, health and interaction I*, term 1 applies from the autumn term of 2007. A student accepted for the physiotherapy programme during the spring term 2007 will be transferred from the autumn term 2007 to studies in accordance with this programme syllabus, course designation *Prerequisites for motion, health and interaction II*. Other students that study during the program's terms 2-6 during the spring term of 2007 will complete their studies in accordance with the programme syllabus adopted on 14-04-1993, and revised on 20-08-2002.

For further instructions on deferment, approved leave from studies, return to studies, credit transfer etc. refer to Linköping University's set of rules and regulations and the faculty board of Faculty of Health Science's stipulated Study-administrative regulations.

Appendix to the programme syllabus for the physiotherapy programme 12-12-2006

In accordance with the Swedish higher education ordinance (SFS 1993:100 appendix 2), the following applies for a bachelor degree:

EXAMINATION AT FIRST-CYCLE LEVEL

Bachelor's degree

Scope

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.

Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Bachelor the student shall:

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including knowledge of the disciplinary foundation of the field, understanding of applicable methodologies in the field, specialised study in some aspect of the field as well as awareness of current research issues.

Competence and skills

For a Degree of Bachelor the student shall have:

- demonstrate the ability to search for, gather, evaluate and critically interpret the relevant information for a formulated problem and also discuss phenomena, issues and situations critically
- demonstrate the ability to identify, formulate and solve problems autonomously and to complete tasks within predetermined time frames
- demonstrate the ability to present and discuss information, problems and solutions in speech and writing and in dialogue with different audiences, and
- demonstrate the skills required to work autonomously in the main field of study.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Bachelor the student shall:

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the main field of study informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues
- demonstrate insight into the role of knowledge in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge and ongoing learning.

Independent project (degree project)

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.

Miscellaneous

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 Bachelor with a defined specialisation.

Fulfilled course requirements and issued physiotherapy degree in accordance with this programme syllabus complies with requirements for the bachelor degree in physiotherapy. The student complying with the requirements for the bachelor degree in physiotherapy has the right to request a degree certificate. The request for a degree certificate must be made on a special form.