

## Revidert og vedtatt tekst for HGO-MA vitnemål – Programrådsmøte i samfunnsgeografi 12.juni 2019

### Human Geography (Master):

#### 2. Objectives, content and organisation of the programme of study

The Master's Degree programme (MA) in Human Geography offers the student a broad theoretical and methodological competence, thematic specialization, and applied knowledge related to specific research problems.

The programme consists of a compulsory introduction to the philosophical traditions of the discipline, training in methods (qualitative, quantitative and/or geographical information systems), elective thematic courses and specializations, and a Master's thesis. Students can choose between a general study programme or a thematic specialization within one of four areas: urban studies and planning, climate change adaptation and transformation, development and politics, and economic and labour geography.

The MA in Human Geography trains students to understand the spatial connections and complexities of the social world. Students develop analytical capabilities to examine the relationship between local processes and conditions and those on the national and global scale. The core of the Master's programme is the thesis, which equips students for independent, academic research. It does so by: formulating research questions based on a relevant theoretical context, making methodological choices, collecting and analysing data through appropriate tools, and presenting research findings in written text and in an oral examination. The Master's Degree programme functions as a qualification for a PhD in Human Geography.

#### 3. The candidate's learning outcomes

### Learning objectives

#### Knowledge

- The candidate will have in-depth knowledge of the history of human geographic thought.
- The candidate will have advanced empirical and theoretical knowledge within one or more of the following areas: Urban Studies and Planning, Climate Change Adaptation and Social Transformations, Development and Politics, and Economic and Labour Geography.
- The candidate will have in-depth knowledge of advanced methodological tools and can assess their appropriate use for the analysis of specific issues.

#### Skills

The candidate will be able to:

- formulate precise research questions, develop a good research design and structure sound argumentation in the analysis of specific issues.
- apply scientific methods and tools to the analysis of empirical and theoretical problems and contribute to their understanding and solution.
- conduct an independent and clearly delineated piece of research in line with academic and methodological standards and ethical guidelines.
- employ analytical, spatial perspectives to new research questions.
- present and write knowledge-based material to an academic standard.

## General competence

The candidate will be able to:

- Communicate research effectively to other experts and the general
- Systematically and analytically acquire and communicate new knowledge.
- Independently assess and reflect upon the methodological, ethical and practical challenges of research.
- Initiate and provide constructive input to professional development activities.
- Independently conduct focused research projects.