



**YOUR GUIDE TO STUDIES AT  
UMEÅ UNIVERSITY  
SWEDEN**

**2023/2024**



**UMEÅ UNIVERSITY**

FOUNDED IN 1965

60 NATIONALITIES ARE REPRESENTED

OVER 37,000 STUDENTS

4 FACULTIES

OVER 40 INTERNATIONAL DEGREE PROGRAMMES

# Welcome to Umeå University

Umeå University is one of the leading comprehensive universities in Sweden. 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, featuring Umeå Arts Campus, the science center Curiosum, three on-campus libraries, high-speed wi-fi and Bildmuseet - the university's museum of contemporary art and visual culture.

## 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, global health, and plant and forest biotechnology.

## 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.

## Table of contents

Welcome to Umeå University	3
Life on Campus	4
Master's programmes	6
Undergraduate programmes	8
Important dates	8
Swedish Study System	9
Tuition fees and scholarships	10
Student Housing	11
Student/alumni interviews	12
Experience Umeå	14



# 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

About every third week or so, 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.

## 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.

## 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 connect 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. Once per semester the university arranges Health on campus - a day to promote health and wellness for students and staff.

**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!

## ARTS CAMPUS:

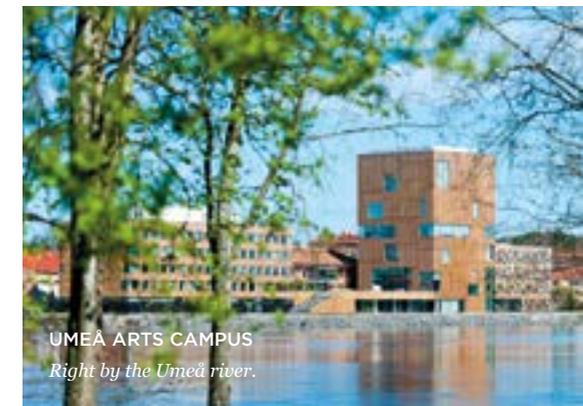
- Exciting architecture right by the river.
- Bildmuseet - the university's museum of contemporary art and visual culture.
- Creative learning environments.
- Close to several parks and the city centre.



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 2023/2024

## ARCHITECTURE, DESIGN, CULTURE AND ART

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

## SOCIAL SCIENCES, POLITICS, LAW, AND JUSTICE

[Gender, Justice and Society \(60 ECTS\)](#)  
[Cognitive Science](#)  
[Constitutional Law and Human Rights](#)  
[Crisis Management and Peacebuilding](#)  
[Earth Science](#)  
[Economics](#)  
[Human Computer Interaction and User Experience](#)  
[Human Geography with a specialisation in Geographical Information Systems \(GIS\)](#)  
[IT Management](#)  
[Landscape Archaeology/Environmental Archaeology](#)  
[Mathematical Statistics](#)  
[Political Science](#)  
[Psychology with Specialisation in Health Psychology \(60 ECTS\)](#)  
[Spatial Planning and Sustainability](#)  
[Statistics and Data Science \(60 ECTS\)](#)  
[Tourism and Sustainable Development](#)

## ECONOMICS, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, AND LEADERSHIP

[Accounting](#)  
[Business Development and Internationalisation](#)  
[Crisis Management and Peacebuilding](#)  
[Economics](#)  
[Finance](#)  
[Management](#)  
[Marketing](#)  
[Mathematical Statistics](#)  
[Political Science](#)

## NATURAL SCIENCES, ENVIRONMENT, AND SUSTAINABILITY

[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](#)

## MATHEMATICS, TECHNOLOGY, AND IT

[Architecture and Urban Design](#)  
[Artificial Intelligence](#)  
[Computing Science](#)  
[Cognitive Science](#)  
[Human Computer Interaction and User Experience](#)  
[IT Management](#)  
[Mathematics](#)  
[Mathematical Statistics](#)  
[Molecular Biology](#)  
[Physics](#)  
[Plant and Forest Biotechnology](#)  
[Robotics and Control](#)  
[Spatial Planning and Sustainability](#)  
[Statistics and Data Science \(60 ECTS\)](#)

## HEALTHCARE, NURSING, MEDICINE

[Biomedicine](#)  
[Biomedical engineering](#)  
[Cognitive Science](#)  
[Psychology with Specialisation in Health Psychology \(60 ECTS\)](#)  
[Public Health](#)  
[Public Health \(60 ECTS\)](#)  
[Public Health with a Specialization in Health Economics](#)  
[Second year of Master's Programme with a Specialization in Health Economics \(60 ECTS\)](#)  
[Second year of Master's Programme in Public Health \(60 ECTS\)](#)

## 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 STUDY PROGRAMMES AT: [WWW.UMU.SE/STUDY](http://WWW.UMU.SE/STUDY)

# Undergraduate programmes

ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024

[International Business and Economics Programme \(180 ECTS\)](#)

[Life Science \(180 ECTS\)](#)

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



## Important dates

**MID OCTOBER  
2022**  
Online  
application  
period opens

**16 JANUARY  
2023**  
Admission  
application  
deadline

**30 MARCH/  
5 APRIL 2023**  
Notification of  
Selection  
Results

**AUG/SEPT**  
Autumn  
semester  
begins

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 require 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 professor is addressed by his or her given name. 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 93,000 per year to SEK 364,500 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

ITEM	ESTIMATED COST
Food	2,000
Accommodation	4,170
Local Travel	550
Phone/internet	300
Hobby/Leisure/Miscellaneous	1,674
<b>Est. Monthly Budget</b>	<b>8,694*</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 3,400 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.*

## “Umeå’s fresh air is unlike anything else – it’s calming here”

### What made you interested in applying for the programme?

It is known that the future is all about technology, robots, and artificial intelligence. Yet when the pandemic hit it was obvious that the world was not ready to deal with many challenges and we could see how life and businesses have changed depending on smart technologies leaning more toward digitalisation. Umeå University offers an interesting programme, and rare in Sweden to intertwine robotics, automation control, and artificial intelligence.

### What would you like to have known before you came to Umeå?

Umeå is a very interesting dynamic growing city, maybe I would have wanted to know more about the effect of the seasonal climate on those who live here.

### What do you think about the programme and the teachers/teaching?

The programme is very intense and diverse, it is interesting combining all technical departments including physics, mathematics, and computer science. Talking about how to implement the latest artificial intelligence and mathematical algorithms to optimise the performance of robots and systems in general.

### What do you like to do in Umeå outside the university?

I always find myself in IKSU after a long school day to recharge my thoughts and keep fit and also try to maintain my social life among friends and colleagues. Umeå’s fresh air is unlike anything else. It’s calming, quiet and peaceful here. I love it!



**Name:** Wael Yassin  
**Age:** 32  
**From:** Sudan  
**Programme:** Master’s Programme in Robotics and Control  
**Graduation year:** 2023

### What are the differences between studying in Sweden and your home country?

Studying in Sweden is a unique experience between the high intensity of education and the work-life balance system that the country is providing. It is proven to be very advanced and a high quality of education here in Sweden.

### What are your plans after graduation?

The plan is to apply this education in labour work. My goal is to build a future in Sweden.

### Favorite Swedish word or custom?

Hej Hej! and the smile that comes with it always brings me joy.

## “You will definitely find whatever you are looking for”

### What do you think about the programme and the teachers/teaching?

I really enjoyed the programme. It is multi-disciplinary and focuses on different interests, so you will definitely find whatever you are looking for. The students come from different disciplines and countries, so you will get to understand things from many perspectives.

The lecturers are very friendly and supportive. I like the way they focus on creating self-reliance and independence in the students. The studies are self driven - I go to class because I want to, not because someone else wants me to go.

### What do you like to do in Umeå outside the university?

Since I have a family I have to fit my activities around them. When I have my own time I like to take a jog around the Nydala lake with its beautiful scenery.

### What are the differences between studying in Sweden and your home country?

The relationship between the lecturers and the students is very different. It’s very mutual and open. Also the way the courses are organised is different, more structured.

### What are you working with?

Currently, I am a PhD student at the Department of Epidemiology and Global Health. My research is on intimate partner violence against women with disabilities in Sweden. I started my PhD in May 2021, one year after my Master’s graduation.

### Favourite Swedish word or custom?

Fika! I like the custom because it is a way of bringing people together, sharing information, catching up and basically getting to know each other.



**Name:** Cartrine Anyango  
**Age:** 37  
**From:** Kenya  
**Programme:** Master’s Programme in Public Health  
**Graduation year:** 2020

### What made you interested in applying for the programme?

I was working for a non-governmental organisation in Nairobi with public health issues. I also had this quest to venture into research, to take part in bringing change to the current public health situation. When my husband got a postdoc position in Umeå, I felt it was the perfect chance for me.

### What would you liked to have known before you came to Umeå?

The university is very supportive - from the time you apply for studies to when you finish your thesis. There are open communication channels and people are available - you can ask any question. The staff is supportive and responsive.

# Experience Umeå

Umeå is known as a culture city, 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

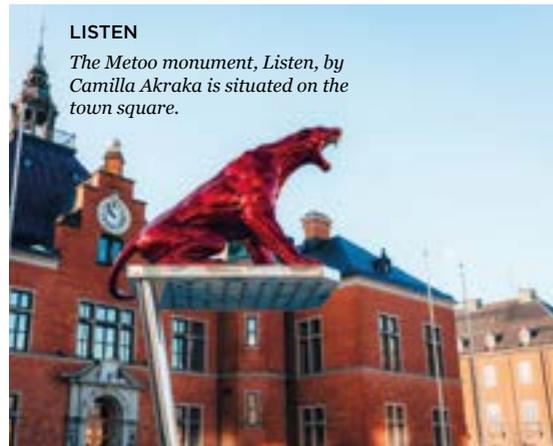
Umeå is home to many growing companies in fields such as biotechnology, environment and energy, medicine, IT, modern forestry and engineering industries. The city has an effective and inclusive support system for innovation with world class academic and business incubators. It lies in Umeå's DNA to challenge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



## LISTEN

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

## SPORTS MINDED

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

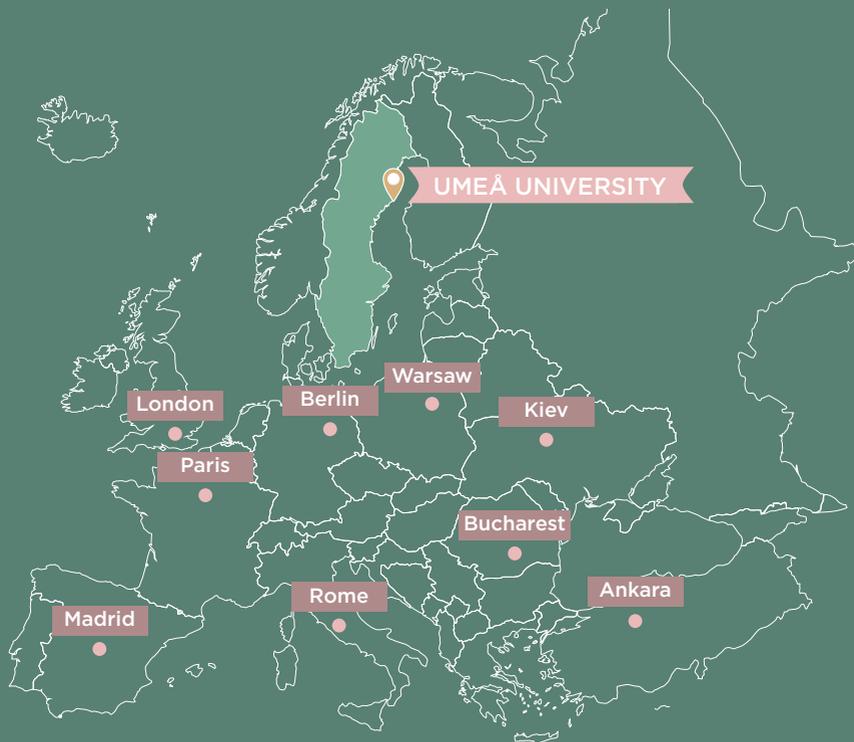


## PRODUCTION

International Office, Umeå University 2022

## PHOTOGRAPHERS

Mattias Pettersson, Philip Avesand/Visit Umeå's Content Bank, Evelina Wikström, Alekzandra Granath, Elizabet Westerlund, Malin Grönborg, Mikael Lundgren, Petra Käck, Fredrik Larsson, Sofia Strömgren, Elin Berge, Ulrika Bergfors, Daniela Spiroska/Homerun Festivals Content Bank



@umeauniversitet



/UmeaUniv



@umeauniversity



/umeauniversitet

## CONTACT US

Umeå University

SE-901 87 Umeå, Sweden

Phone: + 46 (0) 90 786 50 00

E-mail: [infocenter@umu.se](mailto:infocenter@umu.se)