

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Welcome to Mälardalen University

Mälardalen University .....	2
The International Division .....	2

### THE ECTS SYSTEM

What is ECTS? .....	2
ECTS Credits .....	2
The Course Catalog for Exchange Students .....	2
Diploma Supplement .....	2
Degrees given at Mälardalen University .....	2

### APPLICATION AND ADMISSION

Academic Calendar .....	3
Application .....	3
Application Deadline .....	3
Language of Study .....	3
Learning Agreement .....	3
Swedish Language Courses .....	3
Registration .....	3
Introduction Days .....	3
Swedish Academic System .....	3

### STUDENT SERVICES

Student Union .....	4
International Committee .....	4
Student Union Sports Association .....	4
Computer Services .....	4
Copying Machines .....	4
Library .....	4
Students with Special Needs .....	4

### PLANNING YOUR STAY

Accommodation .....	4
Residence Permit .....	4
Travel Information .....	4
Arrival Form .....	5
Currency .....	5
Economy .....	5
Money .....	5
Insurance .....	5
Health Care .....	5
Work in Sweden as a Student .....	5
Additional information .....	5

## PRESENTATION OF OUR FOUR SCHOOLS

School of Education, Culture and Communication .....	6
School of Health, Care and Social Welfare .....	10
School of Innovation, Design and Engineering .....	12
School of Sustainable Development of Society and Technology .....	16

## TIMETABLE FOR COURSES OFFERED

School of Education, Culture and Communication .....	8
School of Health, Care and Social Welfare .....	11
School of Innovation, Design and Engineering .....	14
School of Sustainable Development of Society and Technology .....	18

## COURSES GIVEN IN ENGLISH

### FALL SEMESTER

Study Period 1 and 2 .....	22
----------------------------	----

### SPRING SEMESTER

Study Period 3 and 4 .....	38
----------------------------	----

Useful Internet Addresses .....	53
---------------------------------	----

# WELCOME TO MÄLARDALEN UNIVERSITY

Dear colleagues and students: This Course Catalog for Exchange Students is to facilitate exchange students' stay at Mälardalen University. The catalog consists mainly of three parts; general information, presentation of our four schools and a short description of courses given in English at our university. For more information please visit:

[www.mdh.se/education/exchange\\_student](http://www.mdh.se/education/exchange_student)

## MÄLARDALEN UNIVERSITY

Mälardalen University is a medium sized regional university. It has two campuses: one in the city of Västerås, located on the north side of Lake Mälaren and the other one in Eskilstuna, on the south side of the lake, about 40 km apart. Both cities are situated in the very heart of Sweden, and 100 km to the west of Stockholm.

The campuses contain some of the most modern university buildings in Sweden, centrally situated with well-equipped classrooms, computer provision for students, libraries and laboratories.

The university has some 13,000 students and offers approximately 50 undergraduate degree programs, 25 postgraduate programs and a large number of courses in around 40 disciplines. The subjects taught at the university range from engineering, the natural, social and behavioral sciences, the humanities to the caring sciences. The university has four schools:

- School of Education, Culture and Communication, UKK
- School of Health, Care and Social Welfare, HVV
- School of Sustainable Development of Society and Technology, HST
- School of Innovation, Design and Engineering, IDT

The International Division has administrative responsibility for all international students and provides services such as practical information and Introduction Days. The schools have the academic responsibility. The International Committee of the Student Union arranges *fadders* and organizes social activities for all students.

## THE INTERNATIONAL DIVISION

### POSTAL ADDRESSES:

Mälardalen University	Mälardalen University
Box 883	Box 325
SE-721 23 Västerås	SE-631 05 Eskilstuna

### COURIER POST ADDRESS:

Mälardalens Högskola  
The International Division  
Gurksaltargatan 9  
722 18 Västerås  
Sweden

### VISITING ADDRESSES:

Högskoleplan 1	Drottninggatan 12A
Västerås	Eskilstuna

### WEB ADDRESS:

[www.mdh.se/education/exchange\\_student](http://www.mdh.se/education/exchange_student)

### E-MAIL ADDRESS:

[exchangein@mdh.se](mailto:exchangein@mdh.se)

### FAX NUMBER:

+46 (0) 21 10 15 80

# THE ECTS SYSTEM

## WHAT IS ECTS?

ECTS, the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System, was developed by the European Commission in order to provide common procedures to guarantee academic recognition of studies abroad. It provides a way of measuring and comparing learning achievements, and transferring them from one institution to another. The ECTS system is also a part of the Bologna process. This means that ECTS credits are now used for an accumulative purpose and some countries have also accepted the ECTS grading scale as their own. The ECTS system is based on the principle of mutual trust and confidence between the participating institutions of higher education.

## ECTS CREDITS

Credits are a value allocated to course units to describe the study workload required to complete them. They reflect the amount of work each course requires in relation to the total amount of work required to complete a full year of academic study at the higher education level, including lectures, seminars, independent studies - in the library or at home - as well as examinations or other assessment methods. Credits express a relative rather than an absolute measure of student workload. In ECTS, 60 credits are equivalent to the full time study workload achieved during one academic year, and thereby 30 credits are equivalent to the full time study for one semester.

## THE COURSE CATALOG FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS

The Course Catalog for Exchange Students is available on-line at:

[www.mdh.se/education/exchange\\_student/courses\\_offered](http://www.mdh.se/education/exchange_student/courses_offered)

### THE PAPER VERSION OF THE COURSE CATALOG CAN BE REQUESTED BY CONTACTING:

Anna Ax

Public Relations Office

Telephone: +46 21 15 17 57

E-mail: [anna.ax@mdh.se](mailto:anna.ax@mdh.se)

## DIPLOMA SUPPLEMENT

The purpose of the Diploma Supplement, DS, is to provide sufficient independent data to improve the transparency and professional recognition of academic achievement of students. Every student who completes a degree program at Mälardalen University will automatically receive a DS together with the degree certificate and both are free of charge. Mälardalen University is one of only 3 Swedish Universities (one of 28 in Europe) that has been awarded DS Label by the European Commission. The label is a benchmark for correct and proper use of DS.

## DEGREES GIVEN AT MÄLARDALEN UNIVERSITY

University Diploma	120 Credits
Bachelor of Arts	180 Credits
Bachelor of Science	180 Credits
Bachelor of Technology	180 Credits
Master of Arts	60 or 120 Credits
Master of Science	60 or 120 Credits
Master of Technology	60 or 120 Credits
Teaching qualification	210-330 Credits
Nursing Degree	180 Credits
Degree in Physiotherapy	180 Credits
Degree in Midwifery	180+90 Credits
Specialist degrees in Nursing	60, 75 or 90 Credits
Doctoral Degree in Technology	

# APPLICATION AND ADMISSION

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR

In Sweden, the academic year consists of two semesters, the fall and the spring semester. Each semester is divided into two study periods.

Fall semester: August 31, 2009 - January 11, 2010

Spring semester: January 18, 2010 - June 6, 2010

There are no official breaks between the fall and the spring semesters, but normally some 10 – 14 days around Christmas are lecture free. However, it is possible that students have to prepare some group work or prepare a paper during that period.

## APPLICATION

Mälardalen University has an on-line application form for exchange students. As an exchange student you should fill out and send the application on-line first, and then send a complete application which consists of the paper version of the application form with the following appendices: Transcript of Records, Learning Agreement and your CV (Curriculum Vitae). You will also be asked to give permission to Mälardalen University to use the information you give in your application form for administrative purposes. All these forms should be duly filled in and signed and submitted before the deadline to the address below:

Mälardalen University  
The International Division  
Box 883  
SE-721 23 Västerås  
Sweden

(Faxes are not accepted)

The on-line application form will be available in due time at:

[www.mdh.se/education/exchange\\_student/application](http://www.mdh.se/education/exchange_student/application)

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

The deadline for applications is May 15 for the fall semester (starts in August) and October 15 for the spring semester (starts in January).

## LANGUAGE OF STUDY

Although the official language of Mälardalen University is Swedish, we have many courses, several master programs and two undergraduate programs taught entirely in English. Exchange students are required to have a good knowledge in the English language.

## LEARNING AGREEMENT

A Learning Agreement is an agreement between the student, the home university and the host university in which all parties agree upon the choice of courses for the student to take during the semester/year abroad. Complete the Learning Agreement form with the courses you would like to take during your study period at Mälardalen University. Please note that the fulltime workload per semester is 30 credits.

Before sending the Learning Agreement, make sure that it is signed by your Departmental Student Exchange or ECTS Coordinator, as well as by you. If Mälardalen University has questions regarding your selection of courses, either the ECTS Coordinator or the Study Advisor will get in contact with you or with the coordinator at your home university. If you consider that you fulfill the conditions necessary to follow a course but your transcript of records does not show this, please enclose a letter with your application in which you explain how your knowledge fits with the requirements asked for.

If you intend to participate in the course Swedish Language for Beginners, please make sure that you tick it off in the on-line application and list it in your Learning Agreement along with your other choices. Otherwise you may not be able to join that course.

During the introduction days at Mälardalen University you will meet the Study Advisor or the International Coordinator at your host school to discuss the details concerning your Learning Agreement. Then your Learning Agreement will be signed.

## SWEDISH LANGUAGE COURSES

In addition to the ordinary study program that you choose at Mälardalen University, you can also take introductory courses in the Swedish language. The university offers three courses at different levels. When you come to the university for the first time you will be placed at either level I or level II depending on your language background. When you have finished the first course you can in the next semester move on to the next level. The courses are free of charge, start early in each semester, and are taught late afternoons. They will thus not collide with your ordinary lectures. The courses are 10 weeks long, taught at half speed and equal 7.5 credits each. You will obtain the credits if you pass the examination.

## REGISTRATION

Through the Learning Agreement you will be registered as a student at the university. You also need to register for each course. This is done at each school where you are going to study. You will receive more information about registration during the introduction days.

## INTRODUCTION DAYS

In the week before the start of each semester there are mandatory introduction days for new international students. They are held in August and January. In the Welcome Letter from The International Division, you will receive information on the exact starting dates.

## SWEDISH ACADEMIC SYSTEM

### COURSE SCHEDULE

The schools at Mälardalen University have different ways of scheduling their courses. Some offer one course at a time (7.5 credits over 5 weeks or 15 credits over 10 weeks), others give two courses parallel as part time courses (two 7.5 credits over 10 weeks or two 15 credits over 20 weeks). You will also find cases when all courses are taught parallel during the whole semester e.g. four 7.5 - credit courses given parallel over 20 weeks. There may also be other combinations. For further information on the system, please contact the international coordinator at the school you are interested in.

### TEACHING METHODS

Teaching is carried out in several forms such as lectures, seminars, group work and independent study.

Lectures are given to both smaller (20 – 30 students) and larger groups and students are encouraged to ask questions in both cases. Attendance at lectures is always recommended and is sometimes mandatory.

Students in Sweden are expected to put a great deal of individual work into their studies. In contrast to studies in many other countries, the course literature is studied quite thoroughly and to pass the examination it will not be enough to take notes during lectures, although this is also important.

In many courses you will need to present a paper, often completed together with one or two fellow students, at a seminar. At seminars, attendance is always compulsory and students are expected to participate in discussions. The paper normally carries some of the credits awarded for the course.

The relationship between teachers and students at Swedish universities may seem informal to foreign students. Teachers and students usually call each other by the first name and you are encouraged to ask questions or make comments both in and out of the classroom.

### COURSE LITERATURE

Be prepared to buy your own books. Books are considered quite expensive in Sweden but on both campuses and in both cities you can buy some of the required course literature at reasonable prices second hand. The Student Union has a web site where used books are sold.

### EXAMINATION

A course can be examined in various ways. The combination of a written and/or oral examination as well as a presentation of a paper is a very common kind of examination. Typically, group papers are discussed during seminars towards the end of the course and a written examination takes place at the very end of each course. In some courses continuous assessment is used and based on attendance and participation at seminars throughout the course.

Traditionally, three grades are awarded at Swedish universities: pass with distinction (VG), pass (G) and fail (U). You can also get the grades fail, 3, 4 and 5, in which 5 is the top grade. Certain projects or labs will be rewarded only with a pass (G) or a fail (U).

A student who fails the examination is entitled to take the examination again, on the occasion of scheduled examinations, until it has been passed. A student, who stays for a limited time, can count on one more chance to take the examination later in the same semester. For further information, please read the brochure "What every student needs to know about written examinations", which you will receive during the introduction days. Exchange students will also receive ECTS grades for their course to simplify recognition upon return.

### TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS

Transcript of Records provides a history of the student's academic achievements. Mälardalen University provides every student who has successfully completed her/his study an official transcript with ECTS grade and/or credits. You can ask for your transcript of records at the Information Desk or at the reception desk at your host department.

### OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS

Before going back to your home country, remember to apply for an Official Transcript of Records covering all your studies at Mälardalen University. The form can be requested for at the Information Desk. You need to ask for a transcript of records first to see if all your results have been registered. Then fill in the form Application for Official Transcript of Records, and hand it in at the Information Desk. The document will be sent to the address you have indicated on the form.

## STUDENT SERVICES

### STUDENT UNION

Student Union membership is compulsory for all students at Swedish universities. The Student Union represents the students' interests concerning education and social conditions. There are student representatives in all the decision-making bodies at the universities.

At Mälardalen University, the Student Union dues are approximately SEK 200 per semester for exchange students. This entitles you to a number of discounts on train fares, domestic flights as well as in various shops, sports facilities, opticians, hairdressers, etc. in Västerås and Eskilstuna. You will also need to present the membership card at examinations together with an official ID card or your passport.

During the academic year the local Student Union in both cities organizes various kinds of social activities e.g. pubs, discos and dinners, *sitting*, especially at the respective Student Union houses, *Kårhuset*. You can also get involved in various sections of the Student Union or work at *Kårhuset*. This is a good way to get in contact with Swedish students.

### INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

The International Committee (IC) of the Student Union is organizing your contacts with student mentors and *fadders*. Your *fadder* will help you find your way around and do his/her best to get you settled in. You will meet the people from the IC during the introduction days, and get further information on the activities they organize.

If you want to get in contact with the IC in Västerås email: [ordf.iu.v@mds.mdh.se](mailto:ordf.iu.v@mds.mdh.se)  
For more information: [www.mds.mdh.se](http://www.mds.mdh.se)

### STUDENT UNION SPORTS ASSOCIATION

VSIF and ESIF, the local Student Union Sports Associations in Västerås and Eskilstuna respectively, organize various kinds of sport activities at fixed times every week.

By paying a small fee you become a member and throughout the semester you can participate in all the activities you want e.g. basketball, soccer, volleyball, climbing, weightlifting and floor ball. VSIF and ESIF also arrange for members to participate in annual sports tournaments with other students from all over the country.

### COMPUTER SERVICES

Each school at the university has its own computer facilities with Internet access for its students. Be prepared to show your ID card/passport to the security guards if you stay in the computer rooms in the evening or at weekends. Check with your school for their detailed rules. You will get your own e-mail address with the university's domain.

### COPYING MACHINES

In both Eskilstuna and Västerås you can make your own photocopies in the library. You use your University card (which you have got from the university), at the library or the information desk, fill with money for photocopying.

### LIBRARY

You can borrow books free of charge by registering your University card at the library. You will find all course literature here but sometimes only as reference literature to be read in the library. You will also find some international periodicals and different types of data bases are available if you want to search for literature and articles. During the introduction days you will get information on how to use the library.

### STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Disabled students have their own contact person at the university. You will get help arranging the extra equipment necessary to make your stay as convenient as possible.

Contact	Angela Andersson	Stefan Dahlgren
	Tel. +46 (0)21 101511	Tel. +46 (0)21 10 15 53
	E-mail: <a href="mailto:angela.andersson@mdh.se">angela.andersson@mdh.se</a>	E-mail: <a href="mailto:stefan.dahlgren@mdh.se">stefan.dahlgren@mdh.se</a>

The university is equipped to accommodate students with various disabilities. There is special equipment for students with reduced sight and hearing. The whole university is also accessible for students in wheelchairs.

## PLANNING YOUR STAY

### ACCOMMODATION

Mälardalen University cooperates with housing agencies in both cities, Eskilstuna and Västerås, to facilitate accommodation issues for our international students. There are several alternatives to choose from depending on what you can afford.

The accommodation alternatives might change slightly from year to year. On the web sites of the housing agencies you will find all the information you need regarding the choice and how to apply. You will find the links to the different agencies on our web site:  
[www.mdh.se/education/exchange\\_student/accommodation](http://www.mdh.se/education/exchange_student/accommodation)

Make sure you carefully read the instructions about what is included in your rent and the different terms for rent. Follow the instructions given by the agencies.

The rent varies between approx SEK 10,500 and SEK 15,000 for one semester. You will be asked to transfer money in order to accept your accommodation offer. Part of that money is a deposit that will be used if you fail to clean your accommodation properly before you leave. It may also be used to cover damage that has occurred during your rental period.

Please note that neither the housing company nor the University covers theft of or damage to your personal belongings. All costs need to be met by the student.

#### IF YOU WANT TO SEND THINGS AHEAD OF YOU, HERE ARE THE ADDRESSES:

Your own name	Your own name
c/o International Division	c/o International Division
Mälardalen University	Mälardalen University
Box 325	Box 883
SE-631 05 Eskilstuna	SE-721 23 Västerås
SWEDEN	SWEDEN

### RESIDENCE PERMIT

#### EU CITIZENS

Citizens of the EU/EEU member states do not need to apply for a residence permit, *uppehållstillstånd*, before entering Sweden. However, if you intend to stay more than three months you need a residence permit and you apply for it in Sweden at the Swedish Migration Board, *Migrationsverket*, before your initial three months have expired. During the introduction days you will get help to fill in the forms.

#### RESIDENCE PERMIT FORMS ARE TO BE SENT TO:

If you are living in Eskilstuna	If you are living in Västerås
Migrationsverket	Migrationsverket
601 70 Norrköping	Box 55
Phone: +46 (0)11 156000	721 04 Västerås
	Phone: +46 (0)21 106170

#### NON-EU CITIZENS

If you are not a citizen of EU/EEU, you will need a residence permit and you must have it stamped into your passport before entering Sweden. For further information on how to proceed and how to apply, contact your nearest Swedish Embassy or Consulate. It can take up to 3 months to obtain the residence permit. Further information can be obtained at: [www.migrationsverket.se/english](http://www.migrationsverket.se/english)

### TRAVEL INFORMATION

#### BY PLANE

To arrive in Västerås you can fly directly to Västerås Airport, which has two daily connections with Copenhagen, Denmark and Luton UK (Ryan Air). From the airport you can either take a bus to the Central Station and then a bus or taxi to the university or take a taxi directly.

You can also choose to fly to Stockholm Arlanda. From Arlanda you proceed to Västerås by the Airport bus. It stops at bus stop 16 right outside the arrival hall and runs fairly frequently on weekdays but not so often at weekends and holidays. The bus ride takes 1.5 hours and arrives at the Central Station in Västerås. You can also take an Airport bus or train to Stockholm Central Station. The airport bus takes about 40 minutes, the train 20 minutes but it is quite expensive, and then proceed by train to Västerås, a journey that takes about one hour.

To arrive in Eskilstuna, you can fly either to Stockholm Arlanda or Västerås. If you arrive at Arlanda you can take either the Airport bus or the train from Arlanda to the Central Station, in Stockholm from where you continue by train. The airport bus takes about 40 minutes, the train 20 minutes but it is quite expensive and the train journey from Stockholm to Eskilstuna is 1 hour.

If your arrival is at Västerås Airport, take a taxi or the bus to the Central station and then a train to Eskilstuna. Trains leave every hour, less often in the evening and during weekends.

If you arrive at Skavsta Airport with Ryanair you have the following options. If you are going to Västerås, take the bus to the Central station in Stockholm and then change to train to Västerås. If you are going to Eskilstuna take the bus to Södertälje Södra and then the train to Eskilstuna. Both journeys can take up to three hours.

For information on train schedules please have a look at: [www.sj.se](http://www.sj.se)

Timetable for airport bus between Arlanda and Västerås: [tinyurl.com/swebus](http://tinyurl.com/swebus)

#### BY TRAIN

If you arrive by train to Västerås, you will come to the Central station. The distance to the university is roughly 1 kilometer. In Eskilstuna, the railway station is located some 200 meters from the university.

#### APPROXIMATE PRICES DECEMBER 2008

Airport bus Arlanda – Västerås: SEK 200

Airport bus Arlanda – Stockholm: SEK 80

Taxi Västerås Central station – the University: SEK 80 – 100

Taxi Västerås Airport – the University: SEK 130 – 150

Bus Västerås Central station – the University: SEK 20 ordinary rate

#### ARRIVAL FORM

Fill out your Arrival Form and send it to The International Division in good time so that we can prepare your arrival. The welcome procedures differ in the different campuses. In Västerås you will meet The International Division and the housing agency on fixed days and at particular times. In Eskilstuna you have to go by yourself to the housing agent and then come to the Information Desk at the university. On both locations you will get a welcoming envelope, which contains important information.

#### CURRENCY

The Swedish currency is the Swedish Krona (SEK), 1 krona = 100 öre.

USD 1 ≈ SEK 7,83.

EURO 1 ≈ SEK 10,78 (17 December 2008).

For updated information on Currency Conversion you can check:

[finance.yahoo.com/currency](http://finance.yahoo.com/currency)

#### ECONOMY

The following examples of a feasible monthly budget will give you an idea of the cost of living in Sweden.

Accommodation	2,500
Food	3,000
Books and fees	800
Telephone, papers	200
Local travel	250
Hobbies, leisure	600
Miscellaneous	400
Total	SEK 7,750

The required amount for a residence permit is 7.500 SEK per month for 10 months if you stay for a whole academic year and for 5 months if you stay for one semester.

#### MONEY

Travelers' checks or money deposited in your VISA or MasterCard accounts are useful ways of bringing money with you, however, also see to it that you have some Swedish Krona on hand when you arrive. You can also transfer money by bank checks (fee to cash). Swedish banks though, will not cash personal checks. Eurocheques are only accepted in one bank, NORDEA, but there is a heavy fee to get them exchanged.

Bring passport and Letter of Admission to open an account in one of the banks of Eskilstuna or Västerås. You will get more information about this during the introduction days.

If you want to have money transferred to your account there is a fee involved, but free of charge you can have a commission-free cash card connected to the account. However, remember to close the account before leaving Sweden.

Commonly accepted credit cards are MasterCard, Euro Card and VISA.

#### INSURANCE

As an exchange student you are covered around the clock by an insurance that is obligatory for universities to have. The coverage however is limited and we strongly advise you to get your own personal insurance as well. You can find more information about this insurance on the following web site: [www.kammarkollegiet.se/forsakr/villkor/StudentfNeng.pdf](http://www.kammarkollegiet.se/forsakr/villkor/StudentfNeng.pdf)

#### HEALTH CARE

If you are an EU citizen, always bring your E 128 or other insurance certificate to prove your eligibility for Swedish health care. You will receive more information about health services available to you during the Introduction Days, including addresses and telephone numbers.

#### WORK IN SWEDEN AS A STUDENT

Citizens of the EU countries do not need a specific work permit, only a residence permit the entire stay is longer than three months. This permit allows you to find part time work if you are interested. As a non-EU citizen, and holder of a student visa, you are allowed to work part time, if you can find a job. You should be aware, though, that it is difficult to find jobs.

Any person who receives a salary in Sweden must pay preliminary tax during the year in which the income is earned. If you are on a placement or find a part time job, contact the Local Tax Authority, *Lokala Skattekontoret*, to find out exactly what applies to you. Count on paying at least 25 per cent income tax. *Lokala Skattekontoret* will also give you a temporary Swedish civic registration number if your employer asks for it. If you are on a placement, you need to bring with you the following to *Lokala Skattekontoret*:

- Passport.
- Letter from the employer saying you are here on a placement (and you do not fill an ordinary job position).
- A letter from your home university stating you are still a student at your home institution.

Address, phone number, map and email to *Lokala Skattekontoret* in Västerås can be found here:

[www.skatteverket.se/kontaktaoss/adresserlokalkontor/lokalkontor/20061005skattevrketskontorivasteras.558cc841e10dcffaf9768000105.html](http://www.skatteverket.se/kontaktaoss/adresserlokalkontor/lokalkontor/20061005skattevrketskontorivasteras.558cc841e10dcffaf9768000105.html)

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information about your stay at Mälardalen University can be found on the website in the Student Handbook: [www.mdh.se/education](http://www.mdh.se/education)

