



JÖNKÖPING UNIVERSITY
*School of Education and
Communication*

EDUCARE:
The Swedish Preschool Model
International Masters Program

Congratulations! We are pleased to inform you that you have been accepted into the international master's program *EDUCARE: The Swedish Preschool Model* at Jönköping University's School of Education and Communication.

You will be joining a select group of students from around the world and Sweden who share a deep interest and commitment to developing holistic early childhood education. Our program provides rigorous training in the policy, pedagogy, and research that define Sweden's long history of early childhood education and care provision. This training combines intensive individual and group work through a mixture of lectures, seminars, workshops, and site visits to preschools in and around the Jönköping municipality.

Please read the accompanying materials. These materials provide a detailed description of the program, including specifics regarding what will be required of you in order to successfully complete the program.

Congratulations once again. We hope you will join us in August!

Best,

Stefan Engberg, Dean of Education
Monica Nilsson, Associate Professor
Robert Lecusay, Assistant Professor & Program Coordinator

Supplementary information for students in the EDUCARE Master's Program

Language. This is an intensive one year master's program. In order to meet the minimum requirements of all the courses, as well as to be able to complete the master's thesis, you will have to complete daily reading assignments, weekly-to-daily writing assignments, and participate actively in classroom discussions and presentations. For this reason, proficiency in the English is a must. This is why we have such strict requirements regarding English language competence.

Furthermore, while one of the goals of the program is to train students in *academic* writing, dedicated support is not provided for basic English writing. Applicants to the program must have these basic writing skills at the start of their enrollment.

Digital Literacy. It is important for students to have basic competence in the use of digital technologies. The organization of the master's program is based a *blended learning* model. That is, students engage in traditional classroom-based activities (e.g. lectures, seminars, workshops) in combination with a variety of computer-mediated activities in order to provide them with opportunities to learn on and off campus. The majority of course communication (e-mail, personal instant messaging) and content-delivery is accomplished using *Ping Pong*, the university's e-learning online platform.

Having a personal laptop would be a plus; however, if a student does not have a personal computer, there are computers on campus that the students can freely access.

The Swedish University System. Education at Swedish universities is based on the principle that students take responsibility for their studies with support from the teaching faculty. Students are expected to be self-motivated and to work both collaboratively and independently as they pursue their education. It is standard for full time university students to commit to 40 hours of study per week. The Swedish academic year is divided in two, 20 week semesters (autumn: Aug-Jan; spring: Jan-June). The only scheduled break falls during the last week of December and first week of January; however, given the organization of the autumn semester (from August through January) you will have assignments to complete during this break.

Practical experience. Student will have the opportunity to visit various preschools during their enrollment in the program. No internships will be arranged.