Master's programme, Library and information science: Digital library and information services

Dear student,

We welcome you cordially to our programme and hope that you will enjoy our courses. Digital libraries and information services have become a landmark of the modern society. Many organizations that develop digital resources and services require new competence of meeting users, strategic thinking and managing, designing and promoting them. You will have an opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills of investigating, building, running, evaluating and putting to the effective use different types of digital libraries.

The programme includes courses that help you to understand the role and functions of digital services and libraries in society. You will explore their use by individuals, get insight into professional tasks and processes that librarians and information specialists have to manage, learn to operate technological tools and platforms, solve managerial issues and follow research directions within this developing area of library and information science.

You will study online full-time for two years. Therefore, you have a possibility to do it almost entirely at home and at your own pace. Working at your own pace might mean that you slow down and study half-time. You may do that as long as you take responsibility for planning the studies yourself.

You should have access to a new computer and internet connection that enables you to use multimedia, video, audio files, and even do some programming. You may have to buy some software and teaching materials. On the other hand, you will receive lecture and seminar materials on the e-learning platform PingPong and will be able to use resources available through the Library of the University of Borås free of charge. On PingPong, you can also find current information on the general educational issues in the programme. If you want to learn more about our PingPong platform you may attend an introduction to it that is announced on http://www.hb.se/en/Current-Student/Support/Courses-and-activities/PING-PONG/ (they take place online between Aug. 27 and Sept. 7).

The Swedish School of Library and Information Science has strong contacts with the professional and research community in Sweden, Europe and around the world. The students applying to this programme also come from many countries. As a participant in the programme you will meet each other online and on campus, exchange experience and knowledge, and build your own international network of professional contacts.
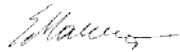
Distance studies require much will power and discipline and it will not be easy to follow the studies. Besides, some of the courses require you to change the usual way of thinking quite radically, regardless of your previous study background. If you have studied humanities or social sciences the challenging part will be our technological courses. If you have computer science or IT background there will be subjects dealing with human and societal issues which may equally place different demands from what you have been used to.

The Master's programme starts on the 3rd of September 2018 with courses in *Digital Library Management, Technology for digital libraries 1* and *Information retrieval 1*. Do not forget to register for the programme or you may lose your place in it. You will also be able to log into PingPong about one or two weeks before the course starts, and you will find additional information about the courses there.

Students are required to attend the residential periods in Borås. The first residential period is planned for September 10-14, 2018 (and will include both the *Technology for digital libraries 1* and *Information retrieval 1* courses).

We once again welcome you to the programme and look forward to seeing you in Borås in September!

Best regards,

Programme supervisors   Elena Maceviciute, elena.maceviciute@hb.se

                                         Helena Francke, helena.francke@hb.se