

V-SAK 3: Søknad om opprettelse av nytt masterprogram

Saken legges frem for Programrådet:

TIL ORIENTERING:

TIL UTTAELSE:

TIL BEHANDLING:

ETTER AVTALE:

Programrådet bes behandle utkast til søknad om nytt masterprogram i sosialantropologi ved SAI. Søknaden skal oversendes Det samfunnsvitenskapelige fakultet for godkjenning før endelig behandling i Universitetsstyret. Første opptak er planlagt for høsten 2025.

Forslag til vedtak:

Programrådet godkjenner oversendelse til fakultetet for videre behandling.



**Proposal to the SV Faculty
for the reshaping of SAI’s Master’s programme in Social Anthropology (to start Fall 2025)**

1 Assessment of the existent programme

- The previous revision of the MA programme took place in 2018 and had its first in-take of students in 2019, establishing an English MA programme. The revision at hand is reworking the 2018 form. The rationale for this present revision is that we had an unsatisfactory recent recruitment to the MA and – mainly- that we experienced late submission of the thesis rates.
- New features in the 2018 revisions included (1) more advanced training in the discipline’s theory and methods, (2) a choice between two specialization tracks (Contemporary Ethnography or Global Political Economy), (3) the possibility of doing an internship or an elective course outside SAI. In addition, we retained the long fieldwork (up to six months), one of SAI’s strengths on the global MA programme market, and the long thesis (35,000 words +/- 10%). Figures 1 and 2 show the existent programme structure with its two tracks.

Fig. 1. Contemporary Ethnography track

4th semester	ANTH4090 – Master thesis		
3rd semester	ANTH4200 – Fieldwork		
2nd semester	ANTH4100 – The Anthropology of Globalization	ANTH4150 – Ethnography in Practice	Elective course(s) *, e.g. ANTH4510
1st semester	ANTH4020 – Academic Writing and Project Development	ANTH4010 – Advanced Anthropological Theory	ANTH4030 – Advanced Anthropological Methods
	10 credits	10 credits	10 credits

Fig. 2 Global Political Economy track

4th semester	ANTH4090 – Master thesis		
3rd semester	ANTH4200 – Fieldwork		
2nd semester	ANTH4100 – The Anthropology of Globalization	ANTH4610 – Work, Capital and Business	ANTH4620 – Finance, Markets and Resources
1st semester	ANTH4020 – Academic Writing and Project Development	ANTH4010 – Advanced Anthropological Theory	ANTH4030 – Advanced Anthropological Methods
	10 credits	10 credits	10 credits

- The 2018 revisions of the MA programme proved attractive to students, as demonstrated in over 200 applications per 50 available seats, more than two first-priority applicants per seat, and stronger applicants, resulting in a programme with a higher grade for admission (*poenggrense*) and a soaring number of international students.
- However, after accumulating feedback from students, the MA programme has proved to contain some important structural complications that make a revision necessary.
- We present the complications identified by faculty, administration, and students through *Sosialantropologisk programutvalg* (SAPU) below.

- Very low rate of completion on time (33% average for 2019-2021), lower than SAI's old MA programme (62% (2016), 54% (2017), 28% (2018) and 52% (2019)). (Although, note that the COVID pandemic has also been a factor.) We aim to raise in-time completion rate to 80%, within a couple of years.
- The programme is intense. While a standard year formally consists of 10 study months, our programme recommends students be engaged for 12 months for the first year. We encourage students to do fieldwork over the summer without offering a break elsewhere.
- Fieldwork is formally placed in the 3rd semester but in practice students need to do it from April to October to get time for coursework and thesis writing. This discrepancy between formal structure and informal practice generates more work for the administration and double-speak in communication with students, who find themselves confused over the timing of fieldwork. This leads them to create their own *ad hoc* programme structure, which undermines the formal programme structure. This also means a differentiated study process and less cohesion in the student group.
- The programme imposes economic burdens on students as it deprives them of the opportunity to earn money over the summer, without giving them the option of added funding from Lånekassen.
- Recent low intake (35 people out of 50 places), with low grades (even at low C), as well as low diversity rates (3 non-Nordic students, when last year we had 15).
- The electives and internship have proved to be incompatible with the structure of the second semester, as they must be completed before April if students are to do fieldwork of the assigned length (ca 6 months).
- We offer no courses or student support in the second year. This needs to change.
- SIO student housing contracts last until June/July. When students leave for fieldwork in March/April they experience early termination of housing contracts.

2 Rationale for the revisions

The revision aims to make a good programme better by addressing its weaknesses. The main task in the revision work has thus been to retain the key strengths of the programme in a better structure without committing further resources for an already resource-demanding programme.

- Retaining the long fieldwork (up to six months), an important selling point for SAI's MA programme internationally, but ensure that its timing in the programme structure lends itself to high in-time thesis submission.
- At the same time, guaranteeing that fieldwork time allows that students get their summer break with possibility for earning money in the absence of Lånekassen support.
- Continuing the high-level training in the discipline's advanced theory and methods, without making the workload overdemanding for students.
- Retaining the two specialization tracks (Contemporary Ethnography and Global Political Economy), as they afford an identity to the MA, now internationally recognized, while making them more compatible with fieldwork.

- Continuing the focus on working life relevance, including the possibility of an internship, but in a way that is more compatible with other course work.
- Focusing on students’ individual research projects, but with a stronger and more predictable structure for both students, faculty, and administration.
- Assessing the length of the MA thesis (currently 35,000 words +/- 10%) to make sure it is comprehensive enough to retain a solid fieldwork-based analysis, while considering students’ finishing on time. A reason for rethinking the thesis length is that course work became more demanding with the 2018 revisions. Thesis lengths for other MA programmes at the faculty are lower: e.g., Geography (20,000-25,000 words), Sociology (28,000-36,000 words) and Political Science (16,000-35,000 words).
- Students may find it easier to follow two main lines of investigation: (1) What does an anthropologist study, and how do they approach their subject matter? And (2) How does an anthropologist work in practice, and how can we transform our interests into a project? The 1st semester caters to this precisely, with the reorganisation of the Theory and Methods courses.

3 Proposed changes in structure

The proposed changes in the MA programme’s structure include four main points that can be summarised under (I) the placement of fieldwork, (II) the merging of existing courses, (III) the introduction of a new course on thesis writing in the third semester, and (IV) the thesis’ length. The new proposed structure is visualised in figures 3 and 4 below.

Fig. 3. Contemporary Ethnography

4 th semester	ANTH4090 Master Thesis (30 ECTS)		
3 rd semester	ANTH4150 Ethnography in Practice (10 ECTS)	ANTHXXXX Elective course(s) (10 ECTS)	ANTH4690 Writing seminar (10 ECTS)
2 nd semester	ANTH4200 Fieldwork (30 ECTS)		
1 st semester	ANTH4110 New Theory course (15 ECTS)	ANTH4050 New methods and Project Dev. course 15 (ECTS)	

Fig. 4. Global Political Economy

4 th semester	ANTH4090 Master Thesis (30 ECTS)		
3 rd semester	ANTH4610 Work, capital and business (10 ECTS)	ANTH4620 Finance, Markets and Resources (10 ECTS)	ANTH4690 Writing Seminar (10 ECTS)
2 nd semester	ANTH4200 Fieldwork (30 ECTS)		
1 st semester	ANTH4110 New Theory course (15 ECTS)	ANTH4050 New Methods and Project Dev. course (15 ECTS)	

I. Merging ANTH4010 and ANTH4100 into ANTH4110

- For the 1st semester, we introduce ANTH4110, a new 15 ECTS course in anthropological theory which replaces the previous courses ANTH4010 – Advanced Anthropological Theory (1st semester, 10 ECTS) and ANTH4100 – Core Themes in Anthropology (2nd semester, 10 ECTS). ANTH4010 (7,5 of 10 credits) and ANTH4100 (7,5 of 10 credits) are equivalent to ANTH4110 (15 credits).
- The new course has 12 three-hour teaching blocks (containing lectures and seminars). It is placed in the 1st semester to help students find an inspiring theoretical framework for their MA project.
- To help students of a non-anthropology background increase their learning outcomes, we introduce a 4 hours' introduction workshop in August before lectures start, that is not part of the programme's official structure. The introduction workshop makes it tenable to reduce the general theory course from 2x10 ECTS to 1x15 ECTS.
- **Examination:** Graded take home exam in the first week of December.
- **Course organisation:** See Section 4.III.a below.

II. Merging ANTH4030 and ANTH4020/Project development into ANTH4050

- For the 1st semester we also introduce **ANTH4050**, a new 15 ECTS methods/project development course incorporating the current ANTH4030 – Advanced Anthropological Methods (1st semester, 10 ECTS) and the current ANTH4020 – Academic Writing and Project Development (1st semester, 10 ECTS). ANTH4020 (7,5 of 10 credits) and ANTH4030 (7,5 of 10 credits) are equivalent to ANTH4050 (15 credits).
- The new course has 12 three-hour teaching blocks (containing lectures and seminars). It is placed in the 1st semester to help students with methodological skills for their MA project.
- Moving the academic writing part of ANTH4020 to post-fieldwork writing seminars will help students when they are writing their thesis (see point III Writing Seminars). Retaining the project development part of ANTH4020 in the 1st semester will allow students to prepare for their project before leaving for fieldwork.
- **Examination:** Pass/fail assessment of project proposal (submission deadline late in Fall semester), allowing students to focus on their proposal after the ANTH4110 exam.
- **Course organisation:** See Section 4.III.b below.

III. Fieldwork

- We propose moving ANTH 4200 - Fieldwork to the 2nd semester. This gives students more time to reflect, digest and write after fieldwork (both 3rd and 4th semester). We believe this will have a positive effect on submission rates, not least with the introduction of additional writing seminars (see point III).
- Moving the fieldwork also creates an unambiguous frame for when this will take place (as it currently begins around April, in the middle of the semester. It also reintroduces students' summer break and makes it easier to comply with SIO's housing contracts.

- With the new structure, we expect students to engage in fieldwork between January/February and June. Indeed, in theory there is flexibility to extend fieldwork to August. This enables some students to engage in longer fieldwork and those who need more preparation time to get fewer months.
- **Examination:** Field report to be submitted by early June, as well as other compulsory activities (see below).

IV. Specialisations and internships

- We move specialisations and internships to the 3rd semester. It is easier and more stimulating to read theory, when students have already done fieldwork and have empirics to think with.
- Students may also do better internships now that they have tested out methods in a long fieldwork and they can choose many elective courses outside SAI in that semester.

V. Writing Ethnography new course

- The new course ANTH4690 Writing Ethnography (10 ECTS) increases student support after fieldwork and could have a significant effect on submission-in-time rates.
- The course itself is held in the 3rd semester, but academic support during the writing phase continues into the 4th semester with two seminars included in ANTH4090 – Master Thesis in the 4th semester. This is to secure sufficient support throughout the writing process across the 3rd and 4th semesters.
- The academic writing part of the previous ANTH4020 – Academic Writing and Project Development (1st semester, 10 ECTS) is moved into these writing seminars. Students need their learning on academic writing when they are actually writing their thesis.
- The course contains 8 meetings of 2 hours each, which suffice given it is a 10 credits course.
- The key activity is students' submission of draft texts from their thesis work 4-6 times during the semester. These are read and discussed in smaller groups of 4-5 students.
- We do not plan obligatory attendance but will communicate the output of attending the seminars, as students will get feedback from both teacher and co-students.
- **Examination:** Pass/fail based on submission of a mandatory text of 2500-3900 words at the same time as an exam submission in Inspira. The text would be a part of their thesis.
- **Course organisation:** See 4.III.c below. See also further discussion in more depth in section 4.III.c, as part of the pedagogical changes implicated in the revision.

VI. Choice of graded courses

- Like in our previous structure, there are three graded courses in this revised programme. They will be:
 - Advanced Anthropological Theory (ANTH4110) in the 1st semester. (See also below).
 - One specialisation course in the 3rd semester (for Global Political Economy track course ANTH4610 and for the Contemporary Ethnography track course ANTH4150).
 - This would embolden the specialisation culture in our MA. Assessment will be done with a take home exam, in which students are asked to write an essay between 2900-3500 words on a chosen topic.
 - The thesis ANTH4090 in the final semester. (See also just below, and Appendix).

VII. Master’s thesis

- We introduce a slightly shorter thesis (30,000 words +/- 10%, so 27,000 to 33,000) which we still regard sufficient for a solid fieldwork-based analyses but that is adjusted to the ambitious course work and the work load it implies and makes early submission possible.

VIII. Note: Transitional arrangements

We will establish transitional arrangements for students who have to transfer from the current programme to the revised one. However, no transitional arrangements are necessary for the 2019-2023 cohorts.

4. Proposed pedagogic changes

I. Supervision

Supervision is a vital component of the MA. In our restructured Master’s, there will be no changes to its structure. In fact, the new formation supports the structure of supervision meetings better than the previous one, due to time of fieldwork and more academic support in the second year.

Fig. 5. Proposed model – same as current model

1st semester	2nd semester	3rd semester	4th semester	II. New
3	1	3	5	
courses				

a. Short description for the new merged course on theory, first semester

ANTH 4110 – Advanced Anthropological Theory

Credits: 15, Teaching: Fall semester, Examination: Fall semester

Course content

Course content

The course provides students with a broad and advanced level grounding in contemporary anthropological theorization. In addition to introducing students to key theoretical discussions and approaches in the discipline, it presents them with a set of analytical tools and frameworks for theorizing the present moment and for constructing their own research agendas.

The course is divided into two main parts. The first part (corresponding to some 25 percent of teaching) introduces students to a) recent anthropological discussions on the role and practice of theory in anthropological research and b) the history of anthropological theorization. The second part of the course (corresponding to some 75 percent of the teaching) explores recent developments in anthropological

theorization through an examination of c) theoretical approaches and discussions that have animated the discipline in the 21st century.

Themes covered in the course are:

Gender, Sexuality and Kinship
Religion in a Secular Age
Anthropology and History
The State
Media and Publics
Capital and Labour
The Environment and the Anthropocene
Beyond the Human
Other Worlds, Other Politics

Learning outcome

Knowledge

- Advanced level overview of key theoretical discussions in contemporary anthropology.
- Appreciation of their relevance for contemporary academic and public policy debates.
- Understanding of ongoing theoretical debates in social anthropology and related disciplines and the position of the students' own research to these debates

Skills

- Ability to understand and reflect on a variety of theoretical positions in anthropology and to use this understanding to contribute to the construction of a unique research agenda.
- Ability to construct an academic argument.
- Ability to write academic texts.

Competencies

- Oral presentation skills.
- Team-work capability through group discussions and group-presentations.
- The ability to express arguments in solid academic written prose.

Teaching

Twelve (12) 3-hour teaching blocks with a combination of lectures and in-class discussions moderated by the lecturer.

Examination

In the first year of the teaching of this course, the examination will consist of a 4-day take home exam (2700-3300 words).

In subsequent years, the format of the course examination may be converted to a portfolio exam if the instructor finds this to be pedagogically meaningful for the course and if departmental resources allow.

b. Short description for the new merged course on methods, first semester

ANTH 4050 – Advanced Anthropological Methods and Project Development

Credits: 15, Teaching: Fall semester, Examination: Fall semester

Course content

This course takes as point of departure the relevance of fieldwork as a practice of anthropological knowledge making. The course includes reading discussions, methodological explorations, and writing work to study the ethics, politics, and practice of ethnographic fieldwork. This way, it aims at contributing to the development of each student's individual research proposal for the MA fieldwork and thesis.

The key output of the course is twofold: a written individual research proposal and a creative methodological reflection. Students' field projects are bases for both. The course includes teaching blocks on participant observation, conducting interviews, data management, library and data research and resources, and critical and ethical reflections on anthropological truth claims, scale, positionality, representation, and collaboration in ethnographic practice as it intersects with gender, class, ethnicity, and nationality. This enables students to formulate research questions, conduct literature review, and define the methodological aspects needed to conduct their own fieldwork. Students will learn to "deep read," develop their writing skills, and think critically to produce written proposals, in-class presentations, and a final creative project.

Learning outcome

Knowledge

- Advanced level overview of key methodological approaches in contemporary anthropology and their relevance for students' own research.
- Appreciation of the ethical challenges raised by different methodological and theoretical approaches.
- Understanding how ethnographic research can address the pressing questions of our age.

Skills

- Ability to design a qualitative research project based on the state of the art of a research field, with a relevant research question and an ethically feasible methodological design.
- Ability to use creative methods and forms of expression for communicating research designs.

- Ability to assess the methodological merit and ethical soundness of qualitative research projects.

Competencies

- Capacity for critically engaging with the methodological and ethical challenges of ethnographic research within contemporary social science.
- Capacity for collective and independent thinking.
- Ability to cultivate ethics, responsibility, and respect in the production of knowledge.

Teaching

Twelve (12) 3-hour teaching blocks with a combination of lectures and in-class discussions moderated by the lecturer.

Examination

Compulsory activities:

2-page draft research proposal.

6-page draft research proposal with oral presentation.

Draft proposals and oral presentations will be assessed as Approved/Not approved.

Exam:

A final submission in Inspira of a 3500 words research proposal.

Creative project that students will build throughout the course, and which will be part of a collective exhibit at the end of the semester.

Short description (up to 300 words) in which students explain what inspired and guided their final production, including a picture of their creative project, a file with it or a link to it. The creative project must be accepted by the lecturer beforehand. All compulsory activities must be approved, and the exam passed in the same semester.

c. Short description for the new writing course, third semester

ANTH4690 - Writing ethnography

Credits: 10, Teaching: Fall semester, Examination: Fall semester

Background

- The need for this course is reflected in student feedback. The course will serve a key role in providing academic support to students during their second year of the Master's.
- A glimpse of this course has been offered by Theo Rakopoulos in 2022 and 2023, in a 3-hour writing up seminar. Inspiration for the course has also been the elective offered by Wenzel Geissler in 2022, titled "Searching ethnographic form: About the boundaries of writing".

Course content

Structure and nature of the course

- The course will be focused on writing, but background and one weekly reading would be part of the teaching and learning process and part of the in-seminar conversation. The overall reading prerequisites will be modest, the course focusing on writing instead.
- A continuation of this course will spill over the 4th semester, by way of two workshop-styled meetings focusing more on writing, where no reading or other class-related activities would be involved. These meetings will form part of 4090 (Master's thesis), as support towards thesis completion.
- Learning outcomes do not only include writing ethnography for an academic audience. The course will also provide students with skill setting on professional or semiprofessional writing for other audiences and outlets, including newspapers, blogs, reports, etc.

Teaching

- The course will consist of eight 2-hour meetings. The first teaching hour will be dedicated to a lecture on a way and form of writing. The second hour will be arranged as a seminar.
- For these lectures, we will mobilise a broader array of colleagues other than the *emneansvarlig* of the course. The course will demonstrate the departmental collective ownership of the MA.
- After the lecture, the rest of the class will have the form of an open seminar, in which students will be called to share a page of their writing in class. Everybody should submit a piece of text for six of the eight seminars. Students will work in smaller groups for around 30 minutes per session, and then work a short joint plenary. The course convenor will facilitate the discussion. Students should feel that each time they attend a session, they have the chance to have their writings subject to critical but caring discussion.

Learning outcome

Knowledge

- Overview of anthropological as well as some literary theory perspectives on key notions regarding writing, composing a text, and indeed an ethnography.
- Understanding of these notions' relevance for contemporary academic and public writing.
- Appreciation for theoretical and practical debates on writing and particularly ethnographic writing, and the ability to relate your own research to the development of these debates.
 - Formal prerequisite knowledge: ANTH4110, ANTH4050, and ANTH4200.

Skills

- Ability to reflect critically when composing essays for academic and general audiences.
- Ability to synthesise variety of positions and to use this understanding to contribute to the construction of a unique research agenda, in writing.

- Essay writing/argument construction skills, with a view on thesis-length writing.

General competence

- Skills for independent academic thought
- Teamwork capability and group-presentations
- The ability to express arguments in solid academic language and oral presentation.
Formal prerequisite knowledge: ANTH4110, ANTH4050, and ANTH4200.

Examination

- The course will be assessed on a 10 ECTS grade level.
- The assessment should cater to get students to submit their thesis in time, and should thus be organized in an integrated form, but with different content for each. Therefore, students will be expected to submit (in Inspira) a uniform chunk of their thesis (a 2500-3900 words piece), that would read cohesively. The text will be assessed on a pass/fail level.
- The pieces would be assessed for their coherence.

4. Recapitulation

Background

- This is a revision to the *existing* structure. The main reason for restructuring is the low level of submission-in-time among our students, as well as a relative low intake of students recently. The reshaping of fieldwork timing and the emboldening of student support in the 2nd year are catered to deliver in-time submission.
- Other reasons for restructuring include:
 - ▶ The awkward time and timing of fieldwork (situated between semesters), which was not squaring with the Faculty's framework on clearly-defined fieldwork time.
 - ▶ Practical matters: SiO accommodation for non-Oslo students and Lånekassen in summer.
 - ▶ Pedagogical matters: students are overloaded with tasks in 1st year and remain unsupported in 2nd year.

Solutions proposed

- Academically intense 1st semester: Long courses with 12 lectures spread out over a full semester will allow students to go deep and think long
- Fieldwork in 2nd semester: This rearrangement squares with both SV and student feedback and demands for clear, but also less confusing fieldwork time and timing.
- Thesis writing seminar 3rd semester: Will get students writing and thinking right away. This will give them writing input and academic support through the MA, with more pedagogic experience in the 2nd year, nurturing coherence and cohesion.

- Specialisations and internships in 3rd semester: This would make the pedagogic and practical output of these activities more efficient, in the light of the fieldwork experience.
- Slightly shorter thesis in 4th semester: From 35.000 to 30.000 words (+/-10%), reflecting general SV policies and aiming at better in-time submission.

Appendix

1. **New descriptions of courses on fieldwork and thesis, with updated information based on our proposal for a revised Master's**

ANTH4200: Ethnographic fieldwork (new description)

Course content

This course consists of independent data production through ethnographic fieldwork for a period of four to six months. During these months, you will be gathering the data or the material that will form the basis for the writing of your thesis. After fieldwork, you have to submit a fieldwork report.

Ethnographic fieldwork is central to anthropological knowledge production, but an anthropological master's thesis can be based on different types of research strategies and different types of material. In addition to more or less classic ethnographic fieldwork, it can also be based (partly or completely) on forms of archival work, digital sources, reading of others' publications, etcetera.

Having passed the exam in [ANTH4090 – Master's thesis](#) is a prerequisite for admission to the course.

[SAI Financial support for fieldwork](#): The Master's Programme in Social Anthropology offers financial support for fieldwork expenses to promote and facilitate students' fieldwork. Social Anthropology master's students can be reimbursed for certain expenses up to maximum fixed rates.

Learning outcome

- In-depth knowledge of the ethnographic region in which you will conduct fieldwork.
- In-depth knowledge of qualitative research methodology with a focus on participant observation and the interpretation and analysis of social interactions.
- Experience-based knowledge and a deeper understanding of the research process in Social Anthropology.

Skills

- Ability to manage and execute an independent research project and collect qualitative data through fieldwork.
- Ability to apply and reflect on key methodological and theoretical tools involved in the collection, production and analysis of different types of data.
- Ability to convert fieldwork material into anthropological data, and to move from data to analytical text in an ethically sound manner.

General competence

- Respect for scientific values, such as openness, rationality and precision, and ability to distinguish between research-based knowledge, practice-based knowledge and "perception"
- Enhanced ethical awareness concerning the various problems that may arise during research and the writing up of research results
- Enhanced capacity to adhere to the principles of academic honesty, integrity, and responsibility when it comes to your research and to other professional work

Examination

Compulsory activities

- Project Proposal Update (pre-fieldwork). Before you start your fieldwork, you must have a mandatory meeting (ca. 30-60 minutes) with your supervisor, during which you present your project plans. This discussion should use the project proposal that was submitted at the end of [ANTH4020 – Academic Writing and Project Development](#) as a basis. The main task is to update your supervisor on further preparatory developments or changes made to the submitted proposal and clarify further ethics and safety challenges that may still need to be discussed. Your supervisor will assess this mandatory meeting as Approved/Not approved.

- MA Fieldwork Notification form (pre-fieldwork). You must fill in the [MA Fieldwork notification web form](#) and the risk assessment form, to notify the department about the details requested before starting your fieldwork. This will be assessed as Approved/Not approved.

Exam

- Fieldwork report (post-fieldwork).

The exam itself consists of a fieldwork report that has to be submitted after fieldwork. The total word count of the fieldwork report should be around 3500 words (+/- 10 percent). The report is assessed by the supervisor on a Passed/Failed-basis.

Additional

- Sikt: All Master's projects will have to be pre-registered with the the [Norwegian Agency for Shared Services in Education and Research \(Sikt\)](#)

ANTH4090: Master's thesis (new description)

Course content

The master's thesis is an independent scientific product to be submitted for the final assessment of the master's degree program.

Learning outcome

- Deep understanding of the anthropological research process
- Experience-based knowledge
- Knowledge of how your own data, collected during fieldwork, can be connected to analytical issues within social anthropological theory, and can be put in a comparative perspective.
- Knowledge of how to apply and reflect on key methodological and theoretical tools that allow you to analyze different types of data

Skills

- Ability to complete and present an independent scientific work in an ethically sound manner
- Ability to present your research results in a way that meets scientific criteria
- Ability to analyze, disseminate and present social and cultural phenomena in written form
- Ability to find and put into context relevant literature

General competence

- Respect for scientific values, such as openness, rationality and precision, and ability to distinguish between research-based knowledge, practice-based knowledge and "perception"
- Enhanced ethical awareness concerning the various problems that may arise during research and the writing up of research results
- Enhanced capacity to adhere to the principles of academic honesty, integrity, and responsibility when it comes to your research and to other professional work

Teaching

Teaching on this course consists of two seminars, which will extend and solidify previous work done with the Writing Seminar (ANTH4690).

The master's thesis will be produced during the third and fourth semesters, i.e. the writing will start after you return from the field. The exam takes place late in semester 4.

Examination

Compulsory activities:

- Submission of two work-in-progress texts connected to the master's thesis.
- Participation in two seminars.

Exam:

The final master's degree exam consists of a master's thesis and an oral examination.

Students in their final semester must fill in and submit a reporting form. This form is not used to register for the exam. You must already be registered for the course and the exam in Studentweb to submit your master thesis. The department uses the reporting form to prepare for the upcoming written and oral exams. The deadline for handing in the form is announced in Canvas. Usually the deadline is in March in the spring semester and October in the autumn semester.

In the spring semester the deadline for submission of master's theses is usually in May. Most oral exams will take place in June, and some in August. In the autumn semester the submission deadline is usually in November with oral exams in December and January.

The master's thesis and the oral exam are assessed by an examination committee consisting of two examiners, and at least one of them will be external, i.e. not hold a position at the University of Oslo.

As soon as possible after the submission, and minimum seven days before the oral exam, you will be notified of the time and place for the oral exam, as well as who the examiners are.

The master's thesis:

The scope of the master's thesis is 30 000 words +/- 10 percent. Master's theses that exceed these limits will be rejected.

Included in the word count:

- Front page
- Abstract
- Table of contents
- Footnotes

Optional to include in the thesis, but will be included in the word count:

- Acknowledgements
- Preface
- List of figures, maps etc. after the table of contents
- Abbreviations after the table of contents

In addition to the word count:

- Reference list
- Appendices

2. Transition cases: Information concerning students who would need to partake in both the previous and new structure

Transitional arrangements for students who are delayed and need to be transferred from the current structure to the new one is important: it is relevant for students who have not completed all courses in the 1st and 2nd semester by the time we implement the new structure.

Currently we have no students who has not completed all courses the first two semesters and who will not loose their right to study. That goes for all cohorts 2019 – 2023. Of course we know nothing about how the 2024 cohort will perform.

We will have to give exams in ANTH4010, 4020, 4030, 4100, 4150, 4610, 4620 and an SAI Elective course once after the courses have been taught because the students must be given at least one chance to retake a failed course or improve the grade in a passed course.

ANTH4010 (7,5 of 10 credits) and ANTH4100 (7,5 of 10 credits) are equivalent to ANTH4110 (15 credits).

ANTH4020 (7,5 of 10 credits) and ANTH4030 (7,5 of 10 credits) are equivalent to ANTH4050 (15 credits).

If a student completes the first semester of the current programme and then transfers to the revised programme, the student will have to take ANTH4110 (reducing the credits for ANTH4010 to 2,5 because of 7,5 credits overlap with ANTH4110) and the 20 credits specialization. That would give the student 57,5 credits of which only 50 credits are recognized in the revised programme. The students will have to complete the writing seminar as well.

If a student completes the two first semesters of the current programme and then transfers to the revised programme, the student will have 60 credits of which only 50 is recognized in the revised programme. This student should also have to complete the writing seminar which would give the needed 10 credits – this is because the writing seminar is especially useful and also because it would (administratively) make them complete all elements of the revised programme.