Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability
60 credits
Dear Sustainability Colleague:

Congratulations! You have been accepted to participate in our unique master’s programme, Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability (MSLS), at Blekinge Institute of Technology (BTH) in Karlskrona, Sweden. We appreciate your interest and your concern for a sustainable society.

As awareness of the sustainability challenge grows, we are under no illusion of the enormity of its influence on our future. We believe that society is in need of both a clear, scientifically-based understanding of sustainability and committed, energized leadership. You will find that the title of the programme - strategic leadership towards sustainability - speaks directly to these needs.

The programme is now entering its sixteenth year. It was co-founded by Dr. Göran Broman (Professor at BTH) and Dr. Karl-Henrik Robèrt (Professor at BTH, Blue Planet Award laureate and Founder of The Natural Step¹), and is an invitation to early- to mid-career professionals from around the world to share experiences and build understanding and ability to act as change agents. The diversity of the class, your expertise and global perspectives are what give it life. Much of the learning will in fact come from your peers.

Below you will find additional information about planning to study in Sweden. Please make sure to check out our websites (www.bth.se/msls and http://www.msls.se/) for what to expect from the upcoming academic year and information about your future colleagues. Over the coming months we will update it with information relevant to the incoming class. You will find this information under the “Arrival” section of the BTH website.

We look forward to welcoming you to Karlskrona in August 2019!

Med vänliga hälsningar (with kind regards),

Merlina Missimer

Programme Director
Master’s Programme in Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability
Blekinge Institute of Technology

¹ The Natural Step (TNS) is an international, charitable organization that has, for 20+ years, been promoting and supporting sustainable development. Along with a network of scientists and researchers, TNS has contributed to the development of a framework for strategic sustainable development.
Practical information

The programme runs full-time from September 2nd, 2019 to June 7th, 2020. In addition, MSLS runs a mandatory Orientation Week, which begins the week before, on August 26th. If you cannot arrive before the programme starts, you must notify the programme manager, Merlina Missimer (mis@bth.se) before August 19th, 2019.

Please note that the final arrival date is September 9th, 2019. Anyone arriving after this date will not be allowed to participate in the programme for this academic year.

If it for some reason is impossible for you to join the programme in time, i.e. before Sept 9th 2019, you will lose your seat in the program! If you are unable to join, you should seek deferment to be able to start your program at the next time it is provided. You find the information about this in the student portal (https://studentportal.bth.se/web/studentportal.nsf/web.xsp/change_in_studies)

Additional Advice

To make your journey to Karlskrona as comfortable as possible we offer the following advice.

1. Review www.bth.se/msls and www.msls.se for what to expect from the year.

The upcoming academic year promises to be an exciting one and we anticipate building on the success of previous years. Some past highlights have included outstanding lectures from internationally recognized experts, visits to and collaboration with our network partners in Sweden, experiential group learning, and much more. As the programme is offered full-time, you should expect a work-load comparable to that of a standard 40-hour work week. Please see our website for more information on course content, the MSLS alumni, and tips from the current class for how to make the most out of your upcoming year! Please also note that we will be going on a fieldtrip on September 22nd to 24th 2019!

2. Accept your offer of admission. After reviewing the website, please confirm your offer of admission via the instructions provided to you by Universityadmissions.se.

3. Pay your first instalment of tuition fees (if applicable). Further information on how to pay your first instalment (typically 50,000 SEK) will be provided by BTH.

4. Apply for your visa as soon as possible. If you require a visa to study in Sweden you should apply for it immediately. Be aware that the Swedish immigration office, along with many other services in Sweden, will be closed or offering reduced services during the summer holiday period (June-August).

5. Plan your upcoming trip. If you do not have accommodation organized before you arrive we recommend that you arrive one to two weeks before orientation week to organize this. Otherwise, you should aim to arrive in time for orientation week commencing the week of August 26th, 2019. This week will be both an opportunity to get settled (housing, furniture, jet-lag, etc.), begin getting to know your colleagues, and prepare for classes as well as a time where we run workshops which lay the foundation for the rest of the year.
Please organize your travel, so that you can participate in this first week. More information on scheduled activities during orientation week will be posted on our website closer to the time. Scheduled classes will begin on September 3rd, 2019 and will run until mid June 2020, with a graduation ceremony typically within a week of end of the semester. Additionally, in past years, students have found the need or the desire to stay in Sweden for some weeks after the programme concludes for extended study or travel purposes. We therefore recommend that you request a 12 month visa, if possible.

You do not need to purchase any textbooks prior to starting class. This will all be coordinated for you during the first week here. There will be additional costs of approx. 3000 SEK which cover purchase of your course textbook and fieldtrip which need to be paid in early September.

6. Review the Arrival Guide on our website. As you look forward to August, you will no doubt have many things to consider in your preparations. An Arrival Guide prepared by the past twelve classes and tailored to the MSLS class can be found at the website http://wearemsls.weebly.com/msls-welcome-guide.html. Please also check BTH’s English website http://www.bth.se/eng/ and scroll to the bottom for a practical guide on arriving and getting settled in Karlskrona.

We will be updating our website with additional information as it becomes available, so check back regularly. Also, a facebook group has been set up for your incoming class by current students, so that you may get to know each other and ask questions to our current students. You can find the group at https://www.facebook.com/groups/2334213420197954/

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Karlskrona. If you have any questions, please contact us at sustainabilitymasters@bth.se.

Roll call and welcome meeting

There will be a roll call meeting on Thursday, August 29th, 2019, 9:00 AM in MSLS Learning Lab: G210/211. Participation is required at this first session.

There will be a welcome meeting on Monday, September 2nd at 12:00–13:00. Venue: Multisalen, (J1504), BTH, Karlskrona.
The Vice-Chancellor will attend the meeting, greeting all new students. Thereafter, we will give you information about student support such as IT helpdesk, student health service, international office etc. Participation is not required at the welcome meeting, but we would appreciate if you could come.

Student accommodation

BTH has no student accommodations and cannot make reservations for students. In order to find accommodation, you have to make an online application or send an email to the housing companies.
Blekinge Student Union can provide you with information about student accommodation in Karlskrona and Karlshamn. Please visit: https://www.bthstudent.se/en/ny-student/bostad/

**First courses**

Strategic Sustainable Development (SSD) – SL2533  
Leading in Complexity (LiC) – SL2534

Information about the courses, such as course literature and other information is available in the course descriptor. You can search for the updated course descriptor (syllabus) via this link: http://edu.bth.se/utbildning/utb_sok_kursplaner.asp?lang=en

**Student account**

To register, you need a student account at BTH and internet access. Your student account is available when you receive an email with information how to get the account in the Student Portal. We recommend that you wait since registration and information about the course is available a few weeks before the course starts.

If you have not received information about your student account by August 19th, please contact us at ithelpdesk@bth.se.

In the Student Portal you can see what services at BTH you can access with your student account.

**Registration**

To be admitted to a course means that you have been offered a study place on the programme. In order to keep your study place, you must register. You must be registered to participate in the lessons and examination.

Register at www.bth.se/studentportalen, choose “in English”, “My studies” then “Registration” and log in with your student account. The registration opens 3 weeks before the course starts. If you, for some reason, cannot carry out the registration yourself, contact, studentcentrum@bth.se.

The registration is also the basis for CSN’s decision regarding your eligibility to receive financial aid. You can apply for up to one academic year at a time.

**Learning management system**

Canvas is BTH’s online learning management system which is used in most programmes and courses at BTH. You can log in to Canvas from The Student Portal or via https://www.bth.se/canvas. You will find all information about the course, including the schedule, in Canvas as well as lecture notes, assignments and sometimes discussion forums and tests.
More information

The Student Portal: www.bth.se/studentportalen

Prepare your arrival at BTH: www.bth.se/eng/education/study-at-bth

You can direct general questions to: studentcentrum@bth.se


MSLS Websites: www.bth.se/msls and http://www.msls.se

MSLS 2019 Facebook Group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/2334213420197954/

For programme related issues you can contact me via e-mail: mis@bth.se

Welcome to BTH and MSLS!

Stay in touch with us on Twitter and Facebook!

https://twitter.com/sustainBTH

https://www.facebook.com/BTHSustainabilityMasters?ref=ts