

SDC

The university partnership
Denmark – China

Master's Programme in

Public
Management and
Social
Development



Development

Academic Regulations

2025

Table of content

Legal Frame	3
Title and degree	3
Duration.....	3
4-YEARS LIMIT	3
Admission requirements.....	4
General programme regulations.....	4
Qualifications.....	5
Purpose.....	5
Qualification Profile	5
Structure.....	6
Commencement.....	7
Changes to the curriculum	8

Legal Frame

Students enrolled in this programme are admitted as full-time students at University of Chinese Academy of Sciences.

This curriculum applies to students enrolled in the programme from 2025.

This master's programme is established within the framework of the following:

- Partnership Agreement between Graduate University of Chinese Academy of Sciences and University of Copenhagen (KU), Aarhus University (AU), University of Southern Denmark (SDU), Aalborg University (AAU), Roskilde University (RUC), Technical University of Denmark (DTU), Copenhagen Business School (CBS), IT University of Copenhagen (ITU), on the establishment of the Sino-Danish Centre for Education and Research, Graduate University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, signed on 12 April 2010
- Agreement between Graduate University of Chinese Academy of Sciences (GUCAS) and University of Copenhagen (KU), Aarhus University (AU), University of Southern Denmark (SDU), Aalborg University (AAU), Roskilde University (RUC), Technical University of Denmark (DTU), Copenhagen Business School (CBS), IT University of Copenhagen (ITU) concerning Master's Programmes at Sino-Danish Centre for Education and Research, Graduate University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, signed on 29 August 2011
- Agreement between Graduate University of Chinese Academy of Sciences and Copenhagen Business School concerning Provision of the Master's Programme in Public Management and Social Development at Sino-Danish Centre for Education and Research (SDC), Graduate University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, signed on 29 August 2011.

Students must observe and act accordingly to the following rules issued by the SDC Directors:

- SDC Rules and Regulations
- Thesis regulations (10 steps)

SDC rules are published on Moodle.

Title and degree

The degree awarded by Copenhagen Business School is Master of Social Sciences in Public Management and Social Development (MSocSc). The degree awarded by University of Chinese Academy of Sciences is Master of Public Management.

Duration

The Master's programme has a duration of two academic years equivalent to 120 ECTS points (European Credit Transfer System). 60 ECTS points correspond to one year of full-time studies.

4-YEARS LIMIT

All SDC students must complete their Danish and UCAS degree within 4 years from the enrolment. This period includes leave of absence. It is possible to apply for an exemption due to illness or other extraordinary circumstances.

When choosing thesis period *Danish/International students* must be aware of UCAS' 4 years limit for awarding diploma. UCAS' degree application procedure *STEP/O CN* (see Thesis regulations IO steps) has to be completed within four years from enrolment. This period includes leave of absence.

Admission requirements

Admission to the Master's programme in Public Management and Social Development is based on

- specific entry requirements of min. 30 ECTS-points within one or more of the following areas:
 - Business administration (e.g. innovation/entrepreneurship; management; marketing; organisation; accounting; statistics; finance; strategy; and the like).
 - Social science methodology (incl. philosophy of science, research design, applied methods, qualitative methods, quantitative methods, mixed methods or the like).
 - Politics in general (incl. political science, political theory, international politics, international political economy, international relations or the like).
 - Culture/society studies with a focus on one or more East Asian countries (incl. sociology, social studies, public administration, anthropology, development studies, law, psychology, culture studies, area studies, history, and philosophy).
 - Economics (incl. economic theory, microeconomics, macroeconomics, international economics, or the like).
- English at Danish level B.

General programme regulations

The language of instruction in the SDC Master's programmes is English. Teaching, supervision and assessment will be carried out in English.

Students will be graded according to both the Chinese and the Danish grading scale with the following correlation:

DK	12	10	7	4	02	00	-3
CN	100-95	94-90	89-76	75-61	60	59-40	39-0

For the master's thesis, students will be graded according to the Chinese 4-point scale. See Thesis regulations IO steps.

Leave of absence can be granted to students on the grounds of becoming a parent, illness, military service or exceptional circumstances.

Students who wish to complete degree programme elements at another university or institution of higher education in Denmark, China or abroad as part of their degree programme may apply to the Teaching Committee for advance approval of transfer credit for planned subject elements.

Students can maximum be granted 30 ECTS credit transfer.

Instead of credit transfer, students may be approved to undertake a 30 ECTS-point study period outside of China. This period can be completed during either the 3rd-semester internship/research project or the 4th-semester thesis process. The purpose of this study period is to advance students' specific academic goals through collaboration with relevant external partners, fieldwork, or related activities.

Either the Teaching Committee or the SDC Directors may grant exemptions to the academic regulations or other SDC rules. Applications for exemption are submitted to the SDC Secretariat.

Qualifications

Purpose

- 1) The objective of the programme is to provide students with knowledge and skills to understand, analyse and navigate various social and political economic systems, with particular emphasis on the intersection between the public and private spheres in China and Denmark/Europe. Graduates acquire an extensive knowledge of the public and private institutional fabric in these environments and the interplay between public and private actors in these contexts. The programme is interdisciplinary and taught in English, providing students with theoretically based and empirical enhanced knowledge of Chinese and European societies, cultures, institutions and practices.
- 2) Graduates will be able to combine a holistic outlook with specialist knowledge, and absorb, produce and apply knowledge and analytical frameworks pertaining to welfare, management and political economic issues.
- 3) Through the programme, students acquire skills relevant to handling and solving cross-disciplinary issues in collaboration with individuals that have the same or a different cultural and educational background.

Qualification Profile

Graduates obtain different competences, depending on their different bachelor degrees as well as their chosen specialisation at master level.

Graduates from the programme develop qualifications allowing them to work in business, the public sector and non-governmental organisations.

Graduates are trained to assist in addressing public policy issues including science and innovation policy, welfare solution and public- private interactions.

The integration of team- and case-based teaching methods in the programme trains students to assume responsibility in assisting, coordinating and leading projects within public policy and management and at the intersection of the private and public. These projects may be related to social development in intercultural settings and market processes. The programme builds organizational, managerial and leadership competencies within these areas.

Knowledge

More specifically, through the programme graduates will obtain knowledge regarding:

- current theories and research situated at the intersections between systems of government, public policy and business systems in different parts of the world.
- social scientific perspectives on the role and nature of cultural and institutional difference.
- social science methods and approaches used for scientific exploration of welfare, market processes and the intersection between the public and private.

Skills

Students develop skills in:

- methods of investigation and analysis in chosen areas.
- team-based learning and problem-solving in an intercultural environment.
- the selection of approaches and development of models for analysis and problem-solving.
- writing with academic rigor and communicating to professional audiences on topics covered in the programme.

Competences

Graduate competences include abilities to:

- analyse and advise upon the development and management of public-private interrelations.
- analyse and advise upon socio-economic and welfare problems and suggest solutions to these.
- plan and manage projects in the public and private spheres, broadly understood.
- plan and initiate academic, practical and personal competence development.

Structure

The programme contains these elements

Semester	Course / Programme element	Exam	Grading	Examiners	ECTS
1	Comparing Societies and Economic Systems	2 written exams	7/100 scale	Internal	7.5
	Research Methods*	Project and oral	7/100 scale	Internal	7.5
	Science and Innovation Policy	Assignment and oral	7/100 scale	Internal	7.5
	Comparative Policy Processes	2 written exams	7/100 scale	Internal	7.5
2	Business and Global Governance	Written and oral.	7/100 scale	Internal	7.5
	Organisation and Management	Oral	7/100 scale	Internal	7.5
	Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship	Written	7/100 scale	Internal	7.5
	Comparing Social Policies: Welfare States in Theory and Practice	Oral	7/100 scale	Internal	7.5
3	<i>One of the following elements must be chosen:</i>				
	Research Based Internship / Project	Assignment and oral	7/100 scale	External	30
	Studies at another University**	-	-	-	30
4	Thesis	Assignment and oral	7/4 scale	External	30

* Research Method is separated into two parts throughout the first semester: a qualitative and a quantitative part. Each part has its own partial exam, but one final grade will be given.

** Electives from other universities must be pre-approved by the Teaching Committee.

All programme elements are mandatory.

The first two semesters provide the core of the programme.

The 3rd semester is devoted to an internship in an organisation of relevance to the programme profile. This could for instance be a government agency, a private company or an NGO. The students should identify a suitable organisation for their internship in dialogue with the third semester coordinator. The internship can

be substituted by course work relevant to the programme's profile undertaken at another university and approved by Teaching Committee.

The thesis semester consists of the preparation of a written master's thesis for the purpose of testing the student's ability for in-depth studies of academic issues and independent description, analysis and processing of a complex issue at master's level. The student chooses the topic of the thesis within the overall focus and academic profile of the programme. The thesis can be written in collaboration with organisations such as governmental agencies, private companies or NGOs. When working on the thesis the student is entitled to guidance by two supervisors, one based at a Chinese university and one based at a Danish university.

Commencement
Effective as of 01.09.2025