



GÖTEBORGS
UNIVERSITET

GOTHENBURG –CHAPEL HILL DOUBLE DEGREE. PERSPECTIVES AND EXPERIENCE.

STINT-SEMINAR ON DOUBLE DEGREE, 6 MARCH, 2018

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What's in it for the student with a DD?

- Benefit from the academic excellence at two (or more) university departments in two (or more) countries
- Cultural and social soft-skills experience from another country
- "Two for the prize of one": two year study – two degrees, one at each university
- Facilitate employability in another country by lowering the thresholds for entering the other country's job market



What's in it for the academic departments?

- **Institutionalised academic international collaboration:** enduring internationalization less dependent on individuals
- **Paving the way for research collaboration & Promoting the linkage between research and education:** "complete academic environments"
- **Quality check and evaluation:** academic, pedagogical, administrative
- **Inspiration and incentive for development and expansion**
- **Outreach and work-life relevance:** employability in a 2nd country
- **Expanded population of future students:** competitiveness, recruitment



The Swedish partner: Centre for European Studies, Department of Political Science, University of Gothenburg

- Three international 2-year masters programs : Master of European Studies (MAES), International Administration and Global Governance (IAGG), Master of Political Science (MAPS) = 120 MA-students admitted each September

Three double degree tracks:

- **2014:** Department of Politics and Public Administration, University of Konstanz, 6 students from each university, 1st year in Konstanz
- **2016:** School of International Relations and Public Affairs (SIRPA), Fudan University, Shanghai, 3 students from each university, 1st year in Gothenburg
- **2018:** Centre for European Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 3 students from each university, 1st year in Chapel Hill
- **Future:** Department of European Studies, Charles University, Prague



The US-Partner: Centre for European Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

- TAM-Transatlantic Master Program (since 1998), 2-year masters programs
- Admitting 20-30 MA-students each September, three tracks:
 - 1) **European Governance**
 - 2) Transatlantic studies
 - 3) German-Turkish studies
- Nine partners (ten with us!), where TAM-students spend 1-2 semesters
 - Amsterdam
 - Ankara
 - Barcelona
 - Bath
 - Berlin
 - Bremen
 - Grenoble
 - Madrid
 - Siena



Chapel Hill-Gothenburg Double Degree

Partners

Centre for European Studies (CES), Department of Political Science,
University of Gothenburg, SWEDEN

Centre for European Studies (CES), University of North Carolina at Chapel
Hill, USA

Programs

MAES – Master of European Studies, social sciences' track

TAM – Transatlantic Masters Program, European governance track

Subject

European Studies: area study that require a kombination of various
disciplinary knowledge within social sciences, economics, humanities

Planning, implementation, developing (1)

- Spring 2012, European Studies Strategic plan: developing at least three double degree collaborations: Europe, Asia, and North America
- Spring 2015: surveying North American, leading up to the selection of two potential US-partners: Institute for European Studies, Indiana University Bloomington & Center for European Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill: a fully developed partner (Chapel Hill) or a promising partner under development (Bloomington). Ongoing research collaboration with both.
- April 2016: study visit trips to Bloomington and Chapel Hill
- May 2016: selecting Chapel Hill, starting to draft an agreement
- Winter/Spring 2017: submitting STINT-application
- May 2017: participation in annual TAM-meeting in Bremen

Planning, implementation, developing (2)

- Summer 2017: drafting web pages informing about coming DD
- August/September 2017: web pages and call for applications
- October 2017: visit to Gothenburg by CES Director John D Stephens
- November 2017: visit to Chapel Hill
- Mid-February 2018: agreement formally approved at both universities after prolonged process, now undersigning remains (starting in Chapel Hill)
- December 2017-April 2018: selection of students
- August 2018: 6 students starting studying in Chapel Hill



Form and content of the Gothenburg – Chapel Hill Double Degree

- Participation in the regularly running masters programs: in our case, adding Appendix to the existing program syllabus (Utbildningsplan)
 - First year in Chapel Hill, second in Gothenburg including master thesis, three students from each university
 - "Hybrid agreement": we define Chapel Hill students as exchange students (no fees; selected and admitted by Chapel Hill) whereas Chapel Hill define our students as full students at Chapel Hill (study fee both years; selected and admitted at Chapel Hill, both TAM-CES and Graduate School)
- > STINT-grant cover 1) student fees during the starting phase, 2) traveling expenses so that we as partners can meet regularly, and 3) starting student-led lunch events at Chapel Hill, inspired by Gothenburg *Brännpunkt Europa*

Challenges and development

- Long-term financing: how handle that our partner requires study fee?
 - 1) Negotiate with our partner about 1-1, i.e. regular exchange program
 - 2) Lobby for Swedish governmental funding
 - 3) Lobby for EU funding
 - 4) Raising funding from corporate actors, US and/or Swedish
- Formal requirements: escape Graduate Schools requirement for tests GRE/GMAT (irrelevant and costly)
- Facilitate internship possibilities at both partner sites
- Extended research collaboration and teacher exchange

Challenges, and rule of thumbs, generally

- Avoid getting stuck and lost in university and country specific rules and regulations: trust; general agreements; acknowledge each others syllabuses and curricula. Early collaboration with officers at your university, and try to engage them in substance, but still avoid that academic drive is stifled
- "Devil is in the details": start collaboration and prepare to learn, revise, and modify under way; on-site meetings (prepare to expand Q&A-lists)
- Enduring capacity (economically, manning) in the protracted implementation phase: in our case in Shanghai, Nordic Centre is invaluable (handbook of DD)
- Let DD-cohorts learn from one anothers' experiences
- Housing: expectations differs between different countries
- Overlapping semesters: be flexible to give leeway to students
- Specifications of courses that will be acknowledged by both partners
- Specifications of requirements for MA-theses: substance and formalia
- Social challenge to join a student group at the start of year two
- Start in small numbers and learn from others (in our case Konstanz, Lund)