Master's

in Childhood Studies

NTNU
Norwegian University of
Science and Technology

Are you interested in children's everyday lives and in childhood as a social and cultural phenomenon? Would you like to know about children's perspectives, experiences and rights in diverse contexts? What about changing conditions of childhood in the era of globalization? If so, the international master's programme in Childhood Studies is suitable for you.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

The master's in Childhood Studies is an inter-disciplinary postgraduate degree that provides students with an understanding of the relationship between childhood and culture, as well as the dynamics between economic, social and political conditions and children's everyday lives. The programme attends to childhood both in the global North and global South. We focus on how children are affected by and navigate processes of social change. Different courses locate children in social, institutional, political, economic, spatial, temporal and cultural contexts. The approach is interdisciplinary with use of di- verse methodologies and theoretical ideas drawn from social science disciplines.

Students' critical and analytical inputs are important. All courses include students of different nationalities and cultural back-grounds. New students participate in an introductory programme involving academic and social activities.

ADMISSON

Admission into the master's in Childhood Studies requires completion of a BA degree in the Social Sciences. Excellent command of English language must be documented as all lectures, course materials and examinations are in English. In addition to Norwegian applicants, the programme is open for self-financed international students. Exchange students are welcome to apply for selected courses. For more information please visit www.ntnu.edu/studies

CAREER PROSPECTS

The programme is relevant for building a career related to children and childhood in public sectors, like policy and planning for children's living conditions in ministries and various other institutions. Graduates are also qualified for work related to research, advocacy and consultancy in the field of children, welfare and international development. Teaching in higher educational institutions, and work in local and international non-governmental organizations are relevant workplaces for candidates who have completed the master's in Childhood Studies.

MASTER'S IN CHILDHOOD STUDIES

Degree level: Master of Philosophy

Application deadline:
Non-EU/non-EEA students: 1 December
Norwegian/EU/EEA students: 1 March
Exchange students: 1 May and 1 October
Admission: 15-20 students
Department: Department of Education and Lifelong Learning
Faculty: Faculty of Social and Educational Sciences
University: Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT

Department of Education and Lifelong Learning provides a multi-cultural and international study environment. An important task of the department is to create insights into the societal and cultural conditions under which children live. The teaching is research-based and is theoretically and methodologically grounded in the interdisciplinary field of childhood studies. Child-focused methods that aim to grasp children's viewpoints are central. The department perceives international and comparative orientation as indispensable for understanding childhood in the contemporary world.

To learn more, please visit us at
www.ntnu.edu/ipl

The master's in Childhood Studies was interesting in many ways, both for acquiring more knowledge of the new sociology of childhood and human rights, in addition to international exchange of ideas with my fellow students in the programme.

CARINA VEDVIK HANSEN,
NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL

SEMESTER	COURSE 7.5 ECTS	COURSE 7.5 ECTS	COURSE 7.5 ECTS	COURSE 7.5 ECTS
4th sem. (spring)	Master's Thesis in Childhood Studies			
3rd sem. (autumn)				
2nd sem. (spring)	BARN 3102: Children's Rights	BARN3201: Participatory Methods and Ethics	Experts in Teamwork	Elective Course
1st sem. (autumn)	BARN3101: Social Studies of Children and Childhood	BARN3202: Methodological Perspectives on Child and Childhood Research	BARN3300: Children and Development in the Global South	Elective Course

Photo: Rune Dahl

Programme structure 2024-25

- Approximately 15 students from 10 countries complete their degree every year
- Opportunity to do fieldwork abroad
- Required TOEFL score: 550/230/80
- Established in 2006

Photo: Rune Dahl

LIVING EXPENSES

National universities do not charge tuition fees, but the Norwegian government requires that non-EU/EEA students secure financial support of at least approximately NOK 10,000 for a 10-month academic year to cover expenses. International degree-seeking students from outside the EU/EEA are guaranteed housing. Students should apply for residence permits from their home country. Requirements and procedures vary according to nationality.

LIVING IN TRONDHEIM

With more than 42,000 students among the 170,000 inhabitants, NTNU is inseparably linked to Trondheim, a city regularly rated as the top Norwegian university city. Its charms extend well beyond the city centre offering public parks, nature paths and trails for hiking or cross-country skiing in the winter. The Trondheim fjord also offers many opportunities for sports enthusiasts from fishing to scuba-diving to swimming in the summer. The NTNU student community offers a wide variety of student groups, festivals and other activities.

It was my sincere interest in children's daily lives and their position within the family that encouraged me to apply.

During the study period my competence in dealing with complex and challenging projects developed and I have become better capable of organizing myself and to prioritize tasks. Furthermore, the programme increased my ability to put myself in the position of others and made me aware of the importance of listening to all parties involved.

HILDUR BJÖRK SIGBJORNSDOTTIR
DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH, ICELAND

Master's in Childhood Studies

NTNU Grafisk senter

CONTACT INFORMATION

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