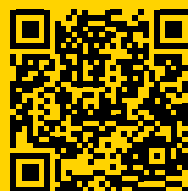


Karlstad University offers vibrant and creative research environments that generate knowledge of benefit to society.

We combine basic, single-discipline research with multidisciplinary and applied research centres. Our comprehensive doctoral programmes are well integrated into the university's research environments.

Welcome to learn more about our doctoral education at Karlstad University!

More information
and current available
PhD positions



KAU.SE/EN



Photo: Linn Malmén. Layout and print: Karlstad University Printing Office. 2026



**KARLSTAD
UNIVERSITY
SWEDEN**



PHD STUDIES
at Karlstad University

KAU.SE/EN



Name: Sruthi
Kallamparambil Dinesh

Country of origin:
India (Kerala)

Occupation: PhD student
in Industrial engineering
and management,
first year

Doctoral project:
Strategic design for
supply chain resilience

MEET ONE OF OUR PHD STUDENTS!

Why did you decide to do your PhD in Sweden?

I heard from a relative that took his PhD here that it is a country with a high focus on academic research and also work-life balance. First I moved to Stockholm and studied at a Master's programme for one year, and then I applied for a PhD position here at Karlstad University and got it. It is more peaceful and very friendly people here in Karlstad, which I appreciate.

How did you find the introduction to the doctoral programme?

I got a very structured and helpful introduction by my supervisor and I was also presented to other colleagues and fellow PhD students. There is also a Graduate Student Association that arrange social events and gives support in various ways. Now I take many different doctoral courses which also gives me the opportunity to meet new people.

And how are you getting on with your Swedish?

My department was very supportive and hired an external tutor so that a group of other international PhD students and I could take Swedish classes every week, which is really helpful. I want to learn the language, even though I get by easily with English.

UNIVERSITY EMPLOYMENT – NOT A SCHOLARSHIP

In Sweden, doctoral education is designed as paid employment. As a PhD student, you are employed by the university, receive a monthly salary and have access to the Swedish social security system. This creates secure working conditions and allows you to focus on high-quality research.

Why choose Karlstad University?

At Karlstad University, you join a close and supportive research environment with strong international connections. Our education and research are focused on knowledge for the benefit of society and our culture is characterised by close collaboration between disciplines and with our external partners.

As a PhD student at KAU, you can expect:

- Dedicated and accessible supervisors
- Clear structure and transparent expectations
- An inclusive and respectful work culture
- Opportunities for academic and professional development

OUR DOCTORAL SUBJECT AREAS

- Biology
- Business administration
- Chemical engineering
- Chemistry
- Comparative literature
- Computer science
- Educational work
- English
- Environmental and energy systems
- General doctoral courses
- History
- Human geography
- Industrial engineering management
- Information systems
- Law
- Mathematics
- Material engineering
- Media and communication studies
- Nursing
- Physics
- Political science
- Psychology
- Public health science
- Risk- and environmental studies
- Social work
- Sociology
- Working life science

STRONG RESEARCH AREAS

CTF, the Service Research Center, is one of the internationally leading research environments in value creation through services. CTF focuses on individual, organisational and societal needs and has extensive partnerships with industry, business and the public sector. Central research areas include service innovation, service management, service experience, transformative service research, service logic and service system transformation.

Computer Science at Karlstad University is committed to excellence in computer networking, IT security and privacy enhancing technologies and software engineering. Our researchers are internationally renowned and develop high quality network services in collaboration with industry. Through interdisciplinary research within the focus areas and joint projects with external partners, Computer Science contributes to the technology and society in today's fast growing mobile and digital world.

Rose, Research on subject-specific education, explores and develops new knowledge about learning and teaching in subjects and holds a strong position both nationally and internationally. The focus is on what happens in the classroom and on the interaction between teachers and students in the learning process. This includes how the content of teaching is selected and how different teaching methods affect and shape the subject content, from primary school to higher education. An important part of the research is to contribute to theory and practice development in schools and teacher education.

In addition, research at Karlstad University includes several other areas, such as the mental health and life circumstances of children, transformation to a circular bioeconomy, the development of the forest industry, sustainable materials, geomedias and gender studies etc.