



Faculty of Health, Science and Technology
Public Health Science

Syllabus

Master Dissertation (one year)

Course Code:	FHABE1
Course Title:	Master Dissertation (one year) <i>Examensarbete i folkhälsovetenskap I (magister)</i>
Credits:	15
Degree Level:	Master's level
Progressive Specialisation:	Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (60 credits) (A1E)

Major Field of Study:
FHA (Public Health Sciences)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology 2018-02-06, and is valid from the Spring semester 2019 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Equality in Health 7.5 ECTS cr and Health Promotion 7.5 ECTS cr or Child Health in a Public Health Perspective 7.5 ECTS cr, and a course in quantitative or qualitative research methodology 7.5 ECTS cr, or equivalent. Upper secondary level Swedish B/Swedish as a second language 3, and English 6 or B, or equivalent.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- describe and problematise the theories and research in the field of public health science.

Skills and abilities

- identify and formulate a delimited and specified problem from a public health science perspective independently and critically evaluate and make adequate methodological choices,

- perform literature searches and other forms of data collection and analyse the data material.

Judgement and approach

- present and defend as well as critically review academic works in public health science,

- ethically reflect on and assess research issues and development projects in public health science.

Content

Instruction is in the form of lectures, PM seminars, individual supervision, independent study and a concluding thesis seminar.

Course content:

- continuous critical reflection on the degree project in terms of process and content
- survey of thesis writing methodology
- information of the library system and database literature search as a method
- thesis writing
- respondent and peer reviewing functions in thesis seminar
- supervision is provided throughout the course period

The degree project can be: 1) a critical analysis of research studies in the field (literature study), or 2) their own empirical study. The second option applies to students who are studying towards a 60-credit master's degree. Students opting for a 120-credit master's degree can either choose to carry out a literature study (alt 1) and then conduct their own empirical study as a Master thesis, or carry out an empirical study (alt 2) as a pilot to an in-depth empirical master's thesis.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on an independently written thesis presented and defended at a seminar and on performance as a reviewer of a fellow-student's thesis. Students who fail to complete the thesis within the course period may, by agreement with the examiner, receive additional supervision for a limited period of no more than six months. The number of examination opportunities is limited to five.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.