



Faculty of Social and Life Sciences
Public Health Science

Syllabus

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty Board of Social and Life Sciences on 13 December 2012, and is valid from the Spring semester of 2013 at Karlstad University.

Course Code: FHABE2

Master Dissertation Public Health Sciences (one year), 15.0 ECTS Credits

(Examensarbete i folkhälsovetenskap II (master), 15.0 Swedish credit points)

Degree Level: Master

Progressive Specialisation: A2E (Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits))

Language of Instruction

Swedish. The dissertation can be written and presented in another Scandinavian language or in English.

Prerequisites

Completed courses in Public Health Science 30 ECTS cr at Master's level, including Health Promotion 7.5 ECTS cr or Child Health in a Public Health Perspective 7.5 ECTS cr and a degree project in Public Health Science I, and methods courses (qualitative and quantitative research methods) 15 ECTS cr at Master's level, or equivalent. Upper secondary level Swedish B/Swedish 2 B and English A or equivalent

Major Field of Study

FHA (Public Health Sciences)

Learning Outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- independently identify and formulate aim and scientific problems related to public health science.

Competence and skills

- plan, demarcate, carry out, process and independently analyse a research problem using appropriate research methods,
- demonstrate methodological skills, critical thinking and stringent analytical ability in an independent scientific work,
- apply relevant scientific theories to a chosen public health area in the analytical definition of the research problem.

Judgement and approach

- assess and apply research ethical aspects to an empirical study,
- identify and point to the need of further research in the area in question,
- give an oral account of and discuss their conclusions, the knowledge and arguments on which these are based in dialogue with others,
- critically review and constructively partake in the discussion of fellow-students' dissertations at a seminar.

Content and Form of Instruction

Instruction is in the form of lectures, PM seminars, individual supervision, independent and active coursework and a concluding dissertation seminar.

The course comprises the following components:

Students are required to continually reflect on their own work-in-progress in terms of process as well as content. Students write a dissertation with a focus on a chosen specialisation area and problem. They are required to independently plan, carry out, document and defend an empirical study in a chosen area. Supervision is provided throughout the course period

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on an independently written work, defended at a seminar, and on the student's performance as a reviewer of a fellow-student's work. Students who fail to complete the work satisfactorily in the course period can, with the approval of the examiner, receive further supervision for a period of six months at the most. The number of examination opportunities is limited to five.

Grades

One of the grades Fail (U), Pass (G), or Distinction 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 assessment is based on student views and experiences as reported in written course evaluations and/or group discussions. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of the measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional Information

Students who enrolled before 1 July 2007 will complete their studies in accordance with the requirements of the earlier admission. Upon completion students may request degree and course certificates to be issued under the current ordinance if they meet its requirements.

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

Required course for the Master's programme Health Science with an emphasis on public health science and is the second of two degree projects for the Master's degree.