



Faculty of Health, Science and Technology  
Public Health Science

## Syllabus

### Master's Thesis in Public Health Sciences

<b>Course Code:</b>	FHABE3
<b>Course Title:</b>	Master's Thesis in Public Health Sciences <i>Master's Thesis in Public Health Sciences</i>
<b>Credits:</b>	30
<b>Degree Level:</b>	Master's level
<b>Progressive Specialisation:</b>	Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits) (A2E)

**Major Field of Study:**  
FHA (Public Health Sciences)

#### Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology 2015-03-13, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2015 at Karlstad University.

#### Prerequisites

Completed courses in Public Health Sciences 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 methods courses (qualitative and quantitative research methods) of at least 15 ECTS cr at Master's level, or equivalent. Upper secondary level Swedish B/Swedish 2 B and English A or equivalent

#### 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 the field of public health sciences.

##### Competence and skills

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

##### Judgement and approach

- assess and consider research ethical aspects in carrying out 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 and 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**

Instruction is in the form of lectures, PM seminars, individual supervision, independent and active coursework and a concluding thesis 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 thesis 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, on 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 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'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 sciences.