



Faculty of Health, Science and Technology
Public Health Science

Syllabus

Master's Thesis in Public Health Sciences

Course Code:	FHABE3
Course Title:	Master's Thesis in Public Health Sciences <i>Examensarbete i folkhälsovetenskap (master)</i>
Credits:	30
Degree Level:	Master's level
Progressive Specialisation:	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 2018-02-06, and is valid from the Spring semester 2019 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Completed courses in Public Health Sciences 30 ECTS cr at Master's level, including Health Promotion 7.5 ECTS cr, Equality in health 7.5 ECTS cr, Child Health in a Public Health Perspective 7.5 ECTS cr, and qualitative and quantitative research methods courses of at least 15 ECTS cr at Master's level, or equivalent. Upper secondary level Swedish B or 3 and English 6 or B, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- identify and formulate aim and scientific problems related to the field of public health sciences independently.

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 studied,

- 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 serving as respondent and as peer reviewer.

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 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 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

Required course for the Master's programme Health Science with an emphasis on public health sciences.

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