



Faculty of Health, Science and Technology
Public Health Science

Syllabus

Recognizing and responding to child maltreatment

Course Code:	FHAVB1
Course Title:	Recognizing and responding to child maltreatment <i>Våld mot barn: att upptäcka och agera</i>
Credits:	7.5
Degree Level:	Master's level
Progressive Specialisation:	Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1N)

Major Field of Study:
FHA (Public Health Sciences)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology 2025-02-04, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2025 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

60 ECTS credits completed, plus upper secondary level Swedish 3 or Swedish as a second language 3 and English 6, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- identify and reflect upon different definitions of child maltreatment and different forms of violence against children,
- state early signs and symptoms of child maltreatment ,
- give an account of and problematise the occurrence of child maltreatment in historical and international perspectives, and
- describe short- and long-term effects of child maltreatment at the individual and societal levels.

Competence and skills

- identify protective and risk factors for child maltreatment at the individual, group, and society levels,
- reflect upon societal measures against child maltreatment at different levels of prevention (universal, selective, and indicated levels), and
- reflect on the importance of professional cooperation and collaboration when working with child maltreatment.

Judgement and approach

- assess and address children's rights in terms of conventions and legislation, and
- relate child maltreatment to public health policies and national public health goals.

Content

The course covers the following:

- definitions of child maltreatment and different forms of violence against children
- occurrence of child abuse
- consequences of child maltreatment
- signs and symptoms of child maltreatment
- the disclosure process
- protective and risk factors for child maltreatment
- prevention

- cooperation and collaboration when working with child maltreatment
- the rights of the child
- public health policy and national public health goals

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on an individual written hand-in assignment presented and discussed orally in a seminar and a group project presented orally in a seminar.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

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.