



Faculty of Health, Science and Technology  
Nursing Science

# Syllabus

## Prehospital leadership

**Course Code:**

OMA420

**Course Title:**

Prehospital leadership  
*Ledarskap i ambulanssjukvården*

**Credits:**

7.5

**Degree Level:**

Master's level

**Progressive  
Specialisation:**

Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1F)

**Major Field of Study:**

OMA (Nursing Science)

### Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology 2026-01-08, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2026 at Karlstad University.

### Prerequisites

Nursing licence issued by the National Board of Health and Welfare, a nursing degree of at least 180 ECTS credits (including a degree project of at least 15 ECTS credits) or a Bachelor degree in nursing (including a degree project of at least 15 ECTS credits), plus at least 12 months full-time work experience as a licensed nurse, plus upper secondary level Swedish 3 or Swedish as a second language 3 and English 6 or A, or Swedish level 3 or Swedish as a second language level 3 and English level 2, and admission to the Study Programme for Specialist Nursing in Prehospital Emergency Care, 60 ECTS credits, with Scientific method, 7.5 ECTS credits, completed at the second-cycle level, or equivalent

### Learning Outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

1. give an account of theories and models of leadership relevant to ambulance and prehospital emergency care,
2. explain how leadership influences patient safety, work environment, and quality of care in ambulance services, and
3. analyse legal and ethical aspects of leadership in acute care situations.

#### Competence and skills

4. apply leadership strategies in simulated or real prehospital scenarios,
5. communicate and collaborate effectively with other actors within healthcare, emergency services, and the police during complex operations, and
6. reflect upon and manage stress, conflict, and decision-making in acute situations.

#### Judgement and approach

7. critically evaluate their own and other people's leadership in relation to evidence-based practice,
8. demonstrate a professional and ethical approach to leadership in situations of high complexity, and
9. identify areas for leadership development within their own organisation.

### **Content**

Instruction is in the form of literature study, lectures, supervision, scenario-based exercises, and seminars. Teaching is conducted using distance learning tools and/or during on-campus sessions.

The functions, roles, and responsibilities of healthcare management are studied. Leadership theories and their practical application within ambulance and prehospital emergency care are addressed, with a particular focus on communication and decision-making in complex environments.

The course also covers the following:

- An overview of the healthcare emergency preparedness system, including national and regional structures for crisis preparedness
- Collaboration between municipalities, regions, governmental authorities, and private stakeholders
- A review of the legal framework, including the Health and Medical Services Act and the Civil Protection and Emergency Planning Act
- The structure and function of crisis management organisations, including the activation of crisis management teams and role allocation
- Practical emergency preparedness, including work on risk and vulnerability analyses, exercises, and scenario-based training
- Methods for evaluation and quality improvement
- Crisis communication, with a focus on internal and external communication, media relations, and psychological support for staff
- Ethical and legal aspects of crisis management, particularly in situations involving resource scarcity and decision-making

### **Reading List**

See separate document.

### **Examination**

Assessment is based on an individual written take-home exam and a mandatory seminar where students are assessed individually.

The examiner may decide that a student who is very close to a passing grade can complete

a supplementary assignment to receive a passing grade for the individual take-home exam. Additional examination material must be submitted within six days of notification. The supplementary assignment only is then assessed in accordance with the assessment criteria, and if it is insufficient, a grade of fail (U) will be given.

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 Fail (U), Pass (G), or Distinction (VG) 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.

As stipulated in the Higher Education Act Chapter 4, sect. 6, and SFS 2007:989, a student who suffers from mental disorder, abuses alcohol or drugs, or has been guilty of a serious offence endangering others or valuable property can be expelled until further notice. In such a case, the Rector files a complaint to the Expulsion Board of Higher Education, which investigates the matter and makes a decision. A decision of expulsion shall always entail that the student must discontinue the education until further notice. The Expulsion Board of Higher Education is responsible for all Swedish higher education institutions.

Required course for the Specialist Nursing Programme: Prehospital Emergency Care