



Board of Teacher Education
Social and Political Studies

Syllabus

Civics and Civics Teaching 6

Course Code:	SHAL06
Course Title:	Civics and Civics Teaching 6 <i>Samhällskunskap med didaktisk inriktning 6</i>
Credits:	30
Degree Level:	Master's level
Progressive Specialisation:	Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1F)

Major Field of Study:

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Board of Teacher Education 2016-02-17, and is valid from the Spring semester 2016 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Completed 82.5 ECTS cr in social science courses, including the module Independent academic writing 7.5 ECTS cr of the course SHGL03, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

The aim of the course is that students enhance their knowledge and skills in subject content and subject-specific teaching methodology with a special emphasis on aspects such as democracy and young people's situation today.

Students are expected to acquire the ability to analyse current society and the ability to translate theory into practical teaching and problematise teaching in reference to current research.

Module 1 Teaching Research-Based Civics, 7.5 ECTS cr

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

1. plan and teach different knowledge domains with variation
2. relate the planned and implemented teaching to current social science education research
3. relate the planned and implemented teaching to several of the academic disciplines forming the knowledge basis of civics
4. use ICT-tools in a relevant and purposive way in the planned and implemented teaching.

Module 2 Subject and Subject-Specific Teaching Perspectives on Democracy, 7.5 ECTS cr

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

1. give an independent account of and compare different theoretical perspectives on democracy and relate these to the concept of society
2. give an independent account of and compare different democratic perspectives on teaching and learning
3. give an account of and analyse the content of human freedoms and rights

4. summarise and independently analyse current research on attitudes democracy among students, teachers and citizens
5. relate the content of the module to analyses of control instruments, textbooks and teaching
6. identify and independently analyse the potentials and problems of subject teaching in relation to the content of the module.

Module 3 Independent Degree Thesis 15 ECTS cr

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

1. identify, formulate and delimit a relevant subject-specific problem in teaching
2. apply methods for literature search and choose relevant literature for a chosen problem
3. collect, process and compile empirical data
4. refer to, analyse and critically review research literature and empirical data in relation to a subject-specific problem in teaching
5. argue for the chosen research methods and theories, completed data collections and analyses as well as identify any source of errors, on the basis of the chosen methods and theories
6. assess the result of their own work in relation to previous research and identify the need of further research in the area in question
7. write and structure a thesis using adequate language and the required formal aspects
8. justify legal limitations and ethical principles in the use of different types of research methods and material
9. defend the thesis orally and serve as a peer review to a fellow students' thesis.

Content

Module 1 Teaching Research-Based Civics, 7.5 ECTS cr

- planning and reporting their own teaching
- describing and using current and relevant civics pedagogy research as support in planning and analysing teaching

Module 2 Subject and Subject-Specific Teaching Perspectives on Democracy, 7.5 ECTS cr

- current democracy debate and research with relevance to school and learning are discussed
- freedoms and rights and other democratic principles and how individuals learn them are discussed from a democratic citizen perspective
- subject-specific teaching methodological theories and issues are applied to course content and their own teaching of it

Module 3 Independent Degree Thesis 15 ECTS cr

Under supervision, students carry out an independent project on an issue related to civics teaching:

- formulating problem, aim and research questions
- research ethical perspectives
- choice of methodological approach and arguments for its link to the chosen topic
- performing systematic literature search in the chosen topic area
- collecting, processing and compiling empirical material
- analysing and discussing the empirical material in the light of theory, aim and research questions
- writing a report of the study
- defending the thesis
- critically reviewing fellow-student's thesis.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on:

Module 1

Learning outcomes 1 and 4: a description of the planned teaching, partly performed to the student group (micro teaching).

Learning outcomes 2 and 3: individual hand-in assignment

Module 2

All learning outcomes: individual hand-in assignments with seminars

Module 3

Learning outcomes 1-8: independent thesis.

Learning outcome 9: seminar discussion and peer reviewing.

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.

Teacher Education: secondary schools