



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Social Work

Syllabus

Advanced Course in Methods of Social Science

Course Code:	SMAAE1
Course Title:	Advanced Course in Methods of Social Science <i>Fördjupningskurs samhällsvetenskapliga analysmetoder</i>
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:
SAA (Social Work)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2017-03-16, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2017 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Professional degree in social care or social work (180 ECTS cr) or Bachelor's degree in social or social care plus:

- 15 ECTS cr degree project at Master's level in social work/social care studies, including a course in social science methods. Upper secondary level Swedish B/3 or Swedish as a second language B/3 and English A/6 or equivalent.

Learning Outcomes

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

- give an account of and reflect on the potentials and limitations of qualitative and quantitative methods,
- independently carry out qualified tasks on a qualitatively and quantitatively collected data material using adequate analysis methods,
- independently present various ways of illustrating results and conclusions,
- evaluate and assess the quality and reliability of empirical investigations,
- evaluate and discuss various methodological approaches in relation to qualitative and quantitative analysis, and
- discuss and problematise ethical aspects of research analysis.

Content

The course starts with an in-depth discussion of the potentials and limitations of social science methods. Quantitative and qualitative methods are treated with a focus on triangulation and different techniques of analysis, presentation and evaluation. Students analyse qualitative as well as quantitative collected data material and apply different evaluation techniques.

Instruction is in the form of lectures, application exercises and seminars.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on individual hand-in assignments and seminars.

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.