Faculty of Arts and Social Science
Social Work

Syllabus

Social Gerontology

Course Code:	SMAS07
Course Title:	Social Gerontology *Socialgerontologi*
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:
SAA (Social Work)

Course Approval
The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Science 2016-03-07, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2016 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites
Upper secondary school level Swedish 3 or B, or Swedish as a second language 3 or B and English 6 or B, or equivalent, plus either
- social work programme 150 ECTS course credits (SGGEN),
- professional degree in social work/social care, or
- Bachelor's degree in social work/social care

Learning Outcomes
Knowledge and understanding
Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:
- demonstrate deepened knowledge of the dynamic change processes of ageing from an individual and social perspective on the basis of social gerontology theory,
- give an account of conceptions of and attitudes to age and ageing in relation to an analytical intersectorial perspective,
- describe a chosen elderly care service and its organisation with a focus on the life situation of the elderly in terms of international conventions, current legislation and the core values of elderly care, and
- exemplify the importance of geriatric pedagogy to social work/social care and the elderly person's life situation until death.

Competence and skills
Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:
- problematise the significance of social gerontological theories in professional daily work with the elderly,
- analyse the pedagogical situations in the elderly's lives in different social gerontological fields in

relation to the needs and wishes of the elderly and their relatives, and
- identify the needs for professional social gerontological improvement efforts in relation to the elderly and their relatives and everyday reality.

Judgement and approach
Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:
- critically review and problematise the elderly care praxis from an ethical and moral perspective and a professional approach, and,
- identify and communicate the needs change and improvement initiatives and contribute to the growth of gerontological social work among the elderly.

Content
The aim of the course is that students develop deepened knowledge in the field of social gerontology through independent work and active and reflecting participation in all course components.

The course comprises the following components:
- Social gerontological perspectives and theories
- Conceptions of age and ageing
- Meeting and talking with the elderly
- Ethics and core values in elderly care
- Being a senior citizen
- Elderly's mental health and illness
- Next-of-kin perspective
- Elderly care/organisation
- Old age pedagogy
- Existential and death issues
- Diversity in elderly care
- Social work with the elderly

Reading List
See separate document.

Examination
Assessment is based on individual hand-in assignments, individually and in groups, aktive participation in seminars and a written exam.

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.

If the course is offered as distance education, students need a computer with internet access.