



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Social Work

Syllabus

Social Gerontology

Course Code:	SMAS07
Course Title:	Social Gerontology <i>Socialgerontologi</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:
SAA (Social Work)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2021-02-15, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2021 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Upper secondary level Swedish 3 or B or Swedish as a second language 3 or B and English 6 or A, plus either

- 150 ECTS credits completed in the Social Work programme (SGGEN),
- a professional degree in social work/social care, or
- a Bachelor degree in social work/social care, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

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

1. give an account of and discuss conceptions and norms of and attitudes to age and ageing in relation to analytical intersectional perspectives,
2. describe and problematise ageing and the dynamic change processes of ageing from individual, group, and social perspectives on the basis of social gerontology theory,

3. analyse professional social work and social care of elderly people, in relation to core norms and values and taking into account the needs, situations, and wishes of the elderly person, relatives, and next-of-kin,
4. critically evaluate and problematise the practices of elderly care based on their own ethical and moral stance and a professional approach,
5. review and critically examine aspects of elderly care with a focus on the elderly person's life situation in terms of international conventions, current legislation, the core values of elderly care, and social gerontology theory,
6. illustrate the significance of various approaches and work methods in social work and social care, related to quality of life and the elderly person's health and life situation from a life cycle perspective,
7. identify needs for professional social gerontological improvement efforts in relation to the elderly and their relatives and everyday reality, and
8. identify and communicate needs for change and improvement initiatives in professional social gerontological work.

Content

The aim of the course is that students develop in-depth knowledge in the field of social gerontology through independent work and active participation in all course components. The course covers ageing and the processes of change related to ageing on the basis of social gerontological theories and from individual, group, and social perspectives. Through knowledge of social, psychological, and societal aspects of ageing and the life conditions of elderly people, students are expected to acquire understanding and preparedness for social gerontological work with elderly people, and for further studies in the area. Course content and components are planned in relation to the intended learning outcomes.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment of learning outcomes 1-8 is based on individual written hand-in assignments, active participation in oral seminars, and an individual written take-home exam.

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.

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