



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Social Work

Syllabus

Individual, group and family

Course Code: SMGA02

Course Title: Individual, group and family
Individ, grupp och familj

Credits: 15

Degree Level: Undergraduate level

Progressive Specialisation: First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G1F)

Major Field of Study:

SAA (Social Work)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2021-01-22, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2021 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Completed courses from the first semester of the Social Work Programme (SGGEN), 30 ECTS credits

Learning Outcomes

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

1. define sociological, sociopsychological, and psychological theories and concepts with relevance to social work and give an account of the differences between them,
2. give an account of the significance of globalisation processes for individual development and relationships in families and society,
3. give an account of the social significance of emotions in human relationships,
4. problematise normality and deviation in relation to vulnerable life situations, and
5. apply diversity and intersectional perspectives in relation to individuals, groups, and families in vulnerable situations.

Content

The course centres on the human being as an individual, a member of a family, a group and society, and deals with how the individual develops and is socialised in relation to and in interaction with the environment throughout life. Sociological, social psychological, and psychological theories are introduced in order to highlight the factors that influence people's lives and development, and how it is possible to understand human interaction and coexistence in relation to social and global processes. Socialisation processes, group dynamics and the importance of institutionalisation and globalisation processes for individual development and relations to family and society are treated. Different perspectives on individual development are also treated with a focus on crisis and development as well as the social importance of emotions. Normality and deviation are dealt with, as well as social vulnerability for individuals, groups, and families in vulnerable situations, in a life course perspective. Children, young adults, and families are considered in terms of situations and needs. For older adults and ageing processes, the course pays attention to the third and fourth ages. Diversity and intersectional perspectives are emphasised throughout (class, gender, sexuality, age, religion, and ethnicity), as are particularly vulnerable life situations such as disability, unemployment, addiction, and domestic violence.

Instruction is in the form of lectures, group work, and seminars, some of which require mandatory attendance.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Learning outcomes 1-3 are assessed on the basis of a written group exam.

Learning outcomes 2-5 are assessed on the basis of group assignments presented and discussed in seminars. Active participation in seminars is required.

Learning outcomes 1-5 are also assessed on the basis of 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 (U) Fail, (G) Pass, or (VG) Pass with distinction 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.

Required course for the Social Work Programme.