



Faculty of Social and Life Sciences
Social Work

Syllabus

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty Board of Social and Life Sciences on 29 March 2012, and is valid from the Spring semester of 2014 at Karlstad University.

Course Code: SMGA04

Theories and methods in social work, 15.0 ECTS Credits

(Teorier och metoder i socialt arbete, 15.0 Swedish credit points)

Degree Level: Bachelor

Progressive Specialisation: G2F (First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements)

Language of Instruction

Swedish

Prerequisites

Completed Social Work Programme courses 60 ECTS cr (terms 1 and 2) and attended 30 ECTS cr courses in term 3

Major Field of Study

SAA (Social Work)

Learning Outcomes

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

- give an account of and use different theories and theoretical concepts at the level of the individual, the group and society,
- examine and assess the advantages and disadvantages of different theoretical perspectives and concepts,
- apply theoretical argumentation in relation to empirical material at the level of the individual, the group and society,
- give an account of and use different methods and strategies for change management, social pedagogy approaches, and social support, and reflect on the consequences at individual and group level,
- identify and explain relevant contexts for using an individual conversation model or a combination of several, such as motivating conversation, creative conversion, networking,
- give an account of the care-providing perspective in the work with functionally impaired or challenged elderly people,
- explain a salutogenic approach to practical social work.

Content and Form of Instruction

Theories and methods of social work at the level of the individual, the group and society are further studied, assessed and discussed. Strategies for empowerment and mobilisation in the local community and their effects on the individual are analysed. The course covers specific change management methods, social pedagogy approaches, networking, teamwork, and the psychosocial dimension is deepened through theory and practical exercises.

Instruction is in the form of lectures, groupwork and seminars. Mandatory teacher-led practical exercises and seminars are included.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on an individual take-home exam, participation in practical exercises and an oral group examination.

Grades

One of the grades Fail (U), Pass (G), or Distinction (VG) is awarded in the examination of the course. Assessment criteria for the grade Distinction are specified in study guides.

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 assessment is based on student views and experiences as reported in written course evaluations and/or group discussions. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of the measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional Information

Students who enrolled before 1 July 2007 will complete their studies in accordance with the requirements of the earlier admission. Upon completion students may request degree and course certificates to be issued under the current ordinance if they meet its requirements.

The course SMGA04 cannot be included in the same degree programme as the course SMGBB5.

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor's and Master's levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.

Required course for the social work programme.

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