



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 26 September 2011, and is valid from the Spring semester of 2014 at Karlstad University.

Course Code: SMGB02

Law in Social Work Practice, 13.5 ECTS Credits

(Juridik för det sociala arbetet, 13.5 Swedish credit points)

Degree Level: Bachelor

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

Language of Instruction

Swedish

Prerequisites

Social Work programme courses 30 ECTS cr (Term 1)

Major Field of Study

SAA (Social Work)

Learning Outcomes

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

- describe the meaning of basic legal concepts,
- give an account of the structure, division and societal role of the judicial system,
- give an account of basic law procedures, the judicial method and exercise of authority
- give an account of the principles of social law and general administrative law, secrecy law and aspects of civil law of relevance to the professional area,
- identify and analyse legal problems in the area of social law and areas pertaining to social work,
- give an account of complex legal problems involving different jurisprudence disciplines as well as other disciplines.

Content and Form of Instruction

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

The course comprises the following components:

- a survey of our legal systems and its divisions
- a study of the judicial method
- basic legal concepts
- an emphasis on the exercise of authority

In social law, there is an emphasis on the social services regulations, intervention legislation pertaining to children and adult addiction, laws regulating the protection of and service to the functionally challenged and

confidentiality. The course includes relevant legislation for the professional area such as health care, psychiatric commitment and the patient data act. Special attention is paid to the legal obligation to notify authorities of misuse and abuse such as Lex Sarah, Lex Maria, child negligence and adult addicts in need of help.

In administrative law, the focus is on the administrative procedure act and the municipal act.

In civil law, students study the parts of special importance to social work such as parenthood and crime, the first with a focus on appointing trustees and custodians and on guardianship, habitation and visiting rights; the second area on crimes of violence, assault, family abuse and on different sanctions, for instance juvenile detention. Also contract law regulating agreements and proxy are treated.

In addition, the UN conventions on human rights are treated and how international obligations must be incorporated in the Swedish legal system to be valid in Swedish courts and authorities. The Swedish EU membership entails an obligation for Swedish courts and authorities to apply EU regulations in the areas of EU cooperation. The effects of EU laws on social services are included in the course.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on seminars and two written, individual exams.

Grades

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

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 SMGB02 cannot be included in the same degree programme as the course SMGA04.

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.