



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Social Work

Syllabus

Paper - Degree

Course Code: SMGB06

Course Title: Paper - Degree
Uppsats - Examensarbete

Credits: 15

Degree Level: Undergraduate level

Progressive Specialisation: First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements, contains degree proj. for B.A./B.Sc. (G2E)

Major Field of Study:
SAA (Social Work)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2022-09-02, and is valid from the Spring semester 2023 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Completed semesters 1, 2, 3, and 4 in the study programme Bachelor of Science in Social Work (SGGEN), and registered for SMGA06 Theory of science and method in social work, 15 ECTS credits

Learning Outcomes

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

1. independently carry out literature searches to delimit a research problem, identify an aim, and formulate research questions in social work,
2. describe and discuss research ethical aspects and considerations continually,
3. perform data collection and analysis using suitable scientific methods,
4. discuss results in relation to previous research and theories in social work,

5. discuss the methodological strengths and weaknesses of research studies, including the scientific reliability of the results,
6. discuss the practical implications of a research study for social work at the levels of individuals, groups, organisations, and society,
7. present a coherent research paper characterised by clarity, rigour, and correct referencing, and
8. critically examine and discuss their own research papers and those of others, orally and in writing.

Content

The course begins with an introductory lecture. Students independently plan, carry out, and write up an empirical or theoretical study which is relevant for social work as a subject and a professional field. Topics and scientific methods are decided in consultation with the supervisor, and supervision is provided throughout the course. Halfway through the course, students have the opportunity to meet the course coordinator to discuss experiences and challenges. The course concludes with a seminar focused on peer review and active participation as all the degree papers are presented and discussed.

Instruction is in the form of an introductory lecture, supervision, and a mandatory final seminar. The course is partly net-based and students can receive support in the virtual learning environment. Supervision is provided for the duration of the course. Reregistered students are only offered supervision if circumstances permit.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is individual and based on a degree paper and performance as a writer and a peer reviewer in a mandatory final seminar. The number of assessment opportunities is limited to five.

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.

The course SMGB06 cannot be included in the same degree programme as the course SMGCE7.