



Faculty of Social and Life Sciences
Sociology

Syllabus

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty Board of Social and Life Sciences on 27 September 2012, and is valid from the Autumn semester of 2013 at Karlstad University.

Course Code: SOAD20

Methodologies and Methods in Social Research, 7.5 ECTS Credits

(Metodologi och metod inom samhällsvetenskaplig forskning, 7.5 Swedish credit points)

Degree Level: Master

Progressive Specialisation: A1N (Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements)

Language of Instruction

Swedish

Prerequisites

90 ECTS cr including degree project of 15 ECTS cr in a social science field, plus upper secondary level Swedish B/ Swedish 2 B and English A.

Major Field of Study

SOA (Sociology)

Learning Outcomes

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

- assess and contrast central methodologies in social science and its importance to the choice of design and method for a specific problem,
- critically review current research from a theory of science perspective,
- deeply reflect on the consequences of methodological and strategic choices at different stages in the research process,

Content and Form of Instruction

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

The module consists of a methodological and methodical specialisation in social science research. The module covers various methodologies and research strategies in terms of generalization, deduction, explanatory models, and the role of theory in research. Various theory of science perspectives are also treated.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on an oral written assignment discussed in a seminar.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course. For a Pass grade, students must complete all the examination components and meet the learning outcomes required. Assessment criteria for a 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 overlaps to some degree with the course SOAD01.

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.

First approved on 8 April 2010.

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