



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Sociology

Syllabus

Environmental mapping and literature review

Course Code:	SOAE63
Course Title:	Environmental mapping and literature review <i>Omvärldsanalys och forskningsöversikt</i>
Credits:	7.5
Degree Level:	Master's level
Progressive Specialisation:	Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1N)

Major Field of Study:
SOA (Sociology)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2023-09-11, and is valid from the Spring semester 2024 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

90 ECTS completed in a Social Science main area of study, including a degree project at the G2F level of at least 15 ECTS credits, and upper secondary level Swedish 3 or Swedish as a second language 3 and English 5, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

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

1. discuss and reflect upon the significance of environmental analysis and give an account of how sociological mapping is done,
2. independently plan and give reasons for an environmental analysis project,
3. identify different types of literature reviews, give examples of their areas of use, and assess them critically in relation to purpose and scientific status,
4. identify and give arguments for suitable search strategies, selection procedures, methods of synthesis and analysis, and sources of information that can be used for literature reviews,

and assess them critically, and

5. independently plan, give reasons for, and carry out a limited literature review.

Content

The course covers environmental analysis and literature reviews. The purpose, implementation, and areas of application of environmental analysis with a focus on sociological contexts are briefly treated. Different types of literature reviews are presented, discussed, and related to scientific issues and research traditions. The course covers the different steps of completing a literature review, such as search strategies, selection, synthesis and analysis, and evaluation of relevant sources of information. An important part of the course is the critical assessment of different types of environmental analysis projects and literature reviews in relation to purpose and scientific status. Students complete mandatory assignments where they present and give reasons for environmental analysis projects, plan and carry out a limited literature review, and assess their own work critically.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on an individual written hand-in assignment and oral presentations in a seminar.

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.