



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Sociology

Syllabus

Social Change

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Course Code: | SOGA70 |
| Course Title: | Social Change <i>Social förändring</i> |
| Credits: | 30 |
| Degree Level: | Undergraduate level |
| Progressive Specialisation: | First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G1F) |

Major Field of Study:
SOA (Sociology)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2017-03-14, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2017 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

The course "Social Organizing, Public Sociology and Research Practice", SOGA50, 30 ECTS cr (completed) and "The Individual and Society", SOGA60, 30 ECTS cr (at least 7.5 ECTS cr completed)

Learning Outcomes

Module 1: Social Change in Relation to Age and Demography 7.5 ECTS cr

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

- describe basic demographic concepts,
- critically reflect on central aspects of demographic changes with a focus on altered age structure,
- analyse how demographic change in terms of age relates to social organising,
- give an account of age as a concept and its importance to social organising, and
- analyse social change from a critical age perspective.

Module 2: Media and Social Space Changes 7.5 ECTS cr

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

- give an account of a selection of social science theories on media and spatiality,
- give an account of and problematise the interplay between media and spatiality on the basis of different theories using historical and contemporary examples, and
- discuss the Internet and social change based on empirical material using text analysis tools.

Module 3: Global Perspectives and Processes 7.5 ECTS cr

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

- analyse how local, regional, national and international processes relate to globalisation,
- give examples of how different social phenomena are organised in terms of globalisation processes, and
- give an account of different social science perspectives on globalisation processes and state similarities and differences.

Module 4: Public Sociology 7.5 ECTS cr

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

- describe and reflect on the importance of some central factors in different forms of knowledge in relation to various actors and sectors in society, and
- describe and problematise the concept of knowledge from different perspectives and in relation to an external business and its organising practices.

Content

Module 1: Social Change in Relation to Age and Demography 7.5 ECTS cr

The module deals with demographic changes in societies from a historical and contemporary perspective. Facts on demographic change are interpreted with the help of social change theories, and demographic issues in different countries and regions are compared.

Instruction is in the form of lectures and laboratory work.

Module 2: Media and Changes of Social Space 7.5 ECTS cr

The importance of media and space to social change is studied on the basis of historical and contemporary examples. An important part of the course is students' own analyses of different media and spaces. Important module components are the study and application of the social science theories and text analysis tools developed through research on these phenomena.

Instruction is in the form of lectures, groupwork and seminars. An important component is that students develop skills in text analysis together with tutors.

Module 3: Global Perspectives and Processes 7.5 ECTS cr

The module provides insight into global perspectives on societal organizing. The aim is to demonstrate how different phenomena in society are related to globalisation processes at the local, regional, national and international levels and how the globalisation partly dissolves the boundaries between the levels. Different contemporary social phenomena related to globalisation are treated such as class, culture, consumption and work.

Instruction is in the form of lectures, groupwork and seminars. Students have opportunities to develop oral and written communicative skills in applying and presenting theoretical arguments.

Module 4: Public Sociology 7.5 ECTS cr

The module reinforces students' knowledge of context, power and knowledge production. One aim of the module is to study how and by whom knowledge is created in relation to different social actors and sectors, mainly on the basis of public sociology. The concept of knowledge is problematised from different perspectives concurrent with students external involvement in practical tasks in the field. Students gain insight into the organisation of some important external workplaces.

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

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Module 1: Social Change in Relation to Age and Demography 7.5 ECTS cr

Assessment is based on active seminar participation, individual take-home exam and group presentation of exam tasks.

Module 2: Media and Social Space Changes 7.5 ECTS cr

Assessment is based on active seminar and workshop participation and an individual take-home exam.

Module 3: Global Perspectives and Processes 7.5 ECTS cr

Assessment is based on active seminar participation and individual take-home exams discussed in seminar.

Module 4: Public Sociology 7.5 ECTS cr

Assessment is based on individual take-home exams.

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.

Required course for the social analyst programme with an emphasis on organising