



Faculty of Social and Life Sciences
Sociology
Syllabus

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty Board of Social and Life Sciences on 23 June 2011, and is valid from the Autumn semester of 2011 at Karlstad University.

Course Code: SOGC01

Sociology III, 30 ECTS Credits

(Sociologi III, 30 Swedish credit points)

Degree Level: Bachelor

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

Language of Instruction

The language of instruction is mainly Swedish.

Prerequisites

Sociology I and II, 1-60 ECTS cr (52.5 cr completed), or equivalent, alternatively Social Psychology I and II, 1-60 ECTS cr (52.5 cr completed), or equivalent.

Major Field of Study

SOA (Sociology)

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to

- discuss and analyse sociological problem areas, theories and concepts with insight
- demonstrate advanced knowledge of sociological analysis and independently carry out a sociological study
- demonstrate understanding of the role of knowledge in society and their own need for further knowledge

Content and Form of Instruction

This course centres on current sociological theory. The students develop their knowledge of sociological analysis, undertake a degree project, and present their work in a seminar. Students are assigned a supervisor to advise them during their projects. Instruction is in the form of lectures/lessons and practical exercises.

The course consists of three modules.

MODULE 1: Current Theory Discussion, 7.5 credits

This module addresses modern sociological theory from the perspective of globalisation and its consequences, for instance, and provides a survey of theories which are currently debated or on the rise in today's research.

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

- discuss and analyse sociological problem areas theoretically and outline the theoretical significance of contemporary sociological research
- assess and apply sociological concepts and theoretical approaches in an analysis

- evaluate and critically examine sociological theories developed, debated and applied in current research

MODULE 2: Sociological Analysis, 7.5 credits

This module covers both quantitative and qualitative data analysis and problematises modern sociological methods of analysis. The quantitative analysis covered is primarily directed towards inference problems and addresses sampling, statistical generalisation, and hypothesis testing. Qualitative analysis can assume a number of different forms. As a case in point, the concept of the Grounded Theory tradition is presented and applied in its analytical passage from data to theory.

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

- outline and explain empirical sociological research results and critically assess the quantitative and qualitative methods used
- evaluate and critically examine sociological methods and perspectives developed, debated and applied in current research

MODULE 3: Degree Project, 15 credits

Students author a theoretical and/or empirically based essay which is presented and defended at a seminar. Students are also required to act as the opponent to a fellow-student's work.

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

- independently demarcate, organise and write an essay of relevance to sociological theory, problems and advanced applications of quantitative and qualitative methods
- independently perform opponentship and defend their own work in terms of research ethics
- demonstrate awareness of the consequences of their research
- present their research and readings in seminars

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Examination is in the form of written tests, individual or group presentations, and a degree project and seminar presentation.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course and the modules. A course grade of Distinction is awarded to students who have earned the grade of Distinction for modules totalling 22.5 ECTS credits

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 local regulations for studies at the Bachelor's and Master's levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.

Karlstads universitet 651 88 Karlstad, Sweden
Tel +46-54-700 10 00 Fax +46-54-700 14 60
information@kau.se www.kau.se