



Faculty of Arts and Social Science
Sociology

Syllabus

Sociology III

Course Code:	SOGC01
Course Title:	Sociology III <i>Sociology III</i>
Credits:	30
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:
SOA (Sociology)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Science 2015-09-14, and is valid from the Spring semester 2016 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Sociology I and II, or equivalent, alternatively Social Psychology I and II, or equivalent.

Learning Outcomes

Module 1 After Industrialism: Theories of Social Change, 7.5 ECTS cr

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

- give an account of different social science theoretical perspectives on social change and point to similarities and differences,
- identify sociological areas of study dealing with social change and apply social science theoretical perspective to these, and
- identify the analytical consequences of the different perspectives.

Module 2 Data Analysis and Methods Assessment, 7.5 ECTS cr

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

- summarise and explain empirical sociological research results and critically assess the methodology used, and
- evaluate and critically review sociological methods and the perspectives developed, debated and used in current research.

Module 3 Degree Project, 15 ECTS cr

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

- independently delimit, design and author an academic essay with relevance to social analysis, sociological theory, problems and more complex applications of quantitative and qualitative methods,
- independently perform as a peer reviewer and defend their own work in regard to research ethical considerations, and

- give an account of the consequences of choices related to ethics and methods.

Content

The course deals with different social analysis and theory perspectives on social change. On the basis of the critique of classic sociologists, the students acquire understanding of the tension between approaching social change as an action- or system-driven phenomenon. Globalisation and individualisation are used as significant examples in this discussion. A deeper description of a relational perspective on the social and social change is also provided, thus inviting a discussion on the concept of society and the relevance of sociology today.

The course consists of three modules.

Module 1 After Industrialism: Theories of Social Change, 7.5 ECTS cr

This module enhances the discussion of modern sociological theory from the perspectives of the consequences of globalisation and individualisation, for instance, and provides a survey of theories which are currently debated or gaining ground in today's research.

Module 2 Data Analysis and Methods Assessment, 7.5 ECTS cr

The module deals with quantitative analysis and qualitative data and problematises the modern sociological methods of analysis. The quantitative analysis covered primarily focuses on 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.

Module 3 Degree Project, 15 ECTS cr

Students author a theoretically 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.

Supervision is only provided for the duration of the course. Reregistered students are offered supervision if circumstances permit.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Module 1 is assessed on the basis of an individual take-home exam, and group preparation and oral presentation of certain assignments in mandatory seminars.

Module 2 is assessed on the basis of a written exam, an individual take-home exam and active participation in mandatory seminars.

Module 3 is assessed on the basis of a written academic essay discussed in seminar and on performance as peer reviewer. The number of examination opportunities is limited to five.

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 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.