



Faculty of Arts and Social Science
Sociology

Syllabus

Social scientific methods

Course Code:	SOGN03
Course Title:	Social scientific methods <i>Samhällsvetenskapliga metoder</i>
Credits:	7.5
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 Science 2016-08-30, and is valid from the Spring semester 2017 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

30 ECTS credits in one of the social sciences.

Learning Outcomes

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

- assess and apply basic methods for empirical data collection in social scientific research,
- process and carry out simple analyses of quantitative and qualitative data,
- give an account of basic principles of research ethics, and
- make use of information retrieval tools to shed light on sociological problems and issues.

Content

Students acquire in-depth knowledge of quantitative and qualitative sociological research methods. A number of minor interviews are conducted by the students, and the qualitative data collected are then coded, compared, and sorted. Students also carry out other forms of data collection, such as questionnaires and observations, and they conduct bivariate and multivariate analyses of quantitative data. The course also covers information retrieval, for instance searching for published articles in various databases, on the basis of given questions.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on an individual take-home exam and a mandatory laboratory experiment in a computer lab on campus.

Grades

One of the grades Pass with 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.

The course SOGN03 cannot be included in the same degree programme as Sociology II.