



Faculty of Social and Life Sciences  
Political Science

### Syllabus

#### Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty Board of Social and Life Sciences on 26 September 2011, and is valid from the Spring semester of 2012 at Karlstad University.

**Course Code:** SVAPO1

**Policyanalysis, 7.5 ECTS Credits**

**(Policyanalys, 7.5 Swedish credit points)**

**Degree Level:** Master

**Progressive Specialisation:** A1N (Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements)

#### Language of Instruction

Swedish

#### Prerequisites

General admission requirements. Upper secondary level Swedish B/Swedish 2 B and English A or equivalent

#### Major Field of Study

SKA (Political Science)

#### Learning Outcomes

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

- give an account of the implementation theory and identify the problems associated with the implementation of superordinate political decisions,
- identify problems associated with the daily application of superordinated political and administrative decisions (the dilemma of the street-level bureaucrat)
- describe and compare the most important theories of policy analysis,
- describe basic evaluation theories and methods,
- design an evaluation study,
- describe different quality assurance systems and identify problems associated with studying quality in the public sector.

#### Content and Form of Instruction

The course includes Implementation theory from the top-down and bottom-up perspectives

Implementation as learning processes and as control through networks

The role and problems of the street-level bureaucrat

Policy analysis and policy studies: developing tools and typologies

Policy analysis of special cases (policy areas)

Evaluation theory and design

Quality assurance in evaluation

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on an individually written take-home exam.

Grades

One of the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Distinction (VG) is awarded in the examination of the course. Assessment criteria for the grade of Distinction are specified in the study guide.

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 course SVAPO1 cannot be included in the same degree programme as the course SAMPA.

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.

Optional course for the Master's programme in Social and political science.

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