



Faculty of Arts and Social Science
Political Science

Syllabus

Public Decision Making in Practice

Course Code:	SVGA40
Course Title:	Public Decision Making in Practice <i>Public Decision Making in Practice</i>
Credits:	15
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G2F)

Major Field of Study:

KGA (Human Geography)

SKA (Political Science)

SOA (Sociology)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Science 2015-03-11, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2015 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Admission to one of the degree programmes SGPOL (Political Science), SGSOG (Social Analysis and Organizing), or SGSAM (Spatial and Social Planning) with at least 90 ECTS cr completed of previous programme courses.

Learning Outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- give an account of and discuss different evaluation methods

Competence and skills

- apply theory in practice,

- discuss the basis of their knowledge fields in relation to other research perspectives.

- demonstrate ability to collect, process and analyse relevant material for investigations and evaluations in the public sector,

- explain and communicate the results of investigations and evaluations to academia and external actors, and

- demonstrate ability to solve reality-based problems in public sector organisations

Judgement and approach

- assess and evaluate public decisions and processes.

Content

The course builds on reality-based cases that students from several degree programmes with different theoretical background solve together. The case allows students to apply theory in practice, thus bridging the gap between theory and practice by making theories comprehensible through practical application. Students also work on an investigation/evaluation and acquire experience of the civil servant role. The course is offered in conjunction with a public sector actor, allowing the students to develop skills in communicating theoretical knowledge to external partners and test their arguments in the field.

Lectures and seminars alternate with practical field work.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment of learning outcomes is based on written individual hand-in assignments and a investigation report, all of which are presented and discussed in mandatory seminars.

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's and Master's levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.