



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
Tourism Studies

## Syllabus

### Tourism Studies: Methods and Independent Project

<b>Course Code:</b>	TVGT23
<b>Course Title:</b>	Tourism Studies: Methods and Independent Project <i>Turismvetenskapliga metoder och uppsats</i>
<b>Credits:</b>	15
<b>Degree Level:</b>	Undergraduate level
<b>Progressive Specialisation:</b>	First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G1F)

**Major Field of Study:**  
TRU (Tourism Studies)

#### Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2017-09-01, and is valid from the Spring semester 2018 at Karlstad University.

#### Prerequisites

Tourism Studies 30 ECTS cr, or equivalent

#### Learning Outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- give an account of different basic methods in the social science research field,
- describe central theories in tourism studies,
- identify and describe different phases, problems and situations of choice in quantitative and qualitative research processes,

Competence and skills

- use basic quantitative and qualitative methods,
- seek and critically evaluate tourism studies literature,
- formulate tourism studies problems,
- apply basic tourism studies theories to clarify and explore various problems,
- use methods and tools for simple analyses of quantitative and qualitative data,
- present research projects orally and in writing,

Judgement and approach

- critically review and assess quantitative and qualitative methods and their usability in tourism studies research,
- assess the strengths and weaknesses of different tourism studies theories to clarify and explore various problems
- reflect on the ethical aspects of the research process stages, and

- critically review research in terms of theory of science, and methodological and ethical approaches.

### **Content**

The course comprises two units: methods (7.5 ECTS cr) and independent project (7.5 ECTS cr.)

The methods unit deals with the intellectual traditions in the social sciences and tourism studies and the stages in the research process. In the independent project unit, students engage in a concrete topical tourism-related social problem, based on previous research in the field and their own collected data.

The course covers different methods and selection criteria for collecting and analysing data. Students carry out different components in the research process such as problem formulation, relation to theory, choice of method, data collection, analysis, and result presentation. Instruction is in the form of lectures, mandatory seminars and supervision.

### **Reading List**

See separate document.

### **Examination**

Assessment of the methods unit is based on individual hand-in assignments and group assignments, presented and discussed in mandatory seminars. The independent project is assessed on the basis of an essay presented and discussed in a mandatory seminar, and on the student's performance as a peer reviewer.

The number of retakes of the independent project is limited to five.

### **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 and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.