



Course syllabus

Board of Institute of Police Education
Department of Criminology and Police Work

0PX51U Polisiärt arbete IV, 8 veckor
Police work IV, 8 weeks

Subject Group
Social Studies

Level of classification
First Level

Progression
GXX

Date of Ratification
Approved by Department of Criminology and Police Work 2017-12-01
The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2018

Prerequisites
Admission to the course requires that the student has passed the previous courses given within the police education, comprising 108 credits, and the traineeship.

Objectives

Thesis (three weeks)

After completing the course, students should be able to:

- plan and carry out a study by the use of relevant research methods, and analyse and discuss empirical results as well as present these in a coherent academic paper,
- defend and in a self-critical manner discuss their own papers and publicly discuss and examine a fellow student's paper.

Personal professional development in police work (five weeks)

After completing the course, students should be able to:

- account for the policy model of the Swedish Police Authority in general terms, and in particular the strategic initiative within the Swedish police concerning development and improvement activities run på employees,
- individually as well as part of a group, critically interpret and analyse their own actions as well as those of others based on their own experiences from police situations,
- critically examine and reflect on different methods of working and approaches within policing,
- discuss work environment issues and the health situation within the police profession, with special emphasis on specific problematic situations.

Content

Thesis

The course starts immediately after the student has completed the placement period and is a continuation on the course Methods in preparation for thesis (3 credits), which is studied prior to the placement. The course focuses on the writing of the paper, and includes individual supervision as well as part of a group, mainly through the virtual learning environment, and examination elements including public discussion and examination seminars where the student serves as the student reviewer for another student's paper. Students shall mainly work in pairs, but groups of three may be approved and in exceptional cases students may also be allowed to write their papers individually. Students may choose between a limited number of specialisations, which are selected on the basis of the students' interests, the supervisor competency available, and in relation to the aim of attaining a breadth in the fields included in Police work and research methods. During the course, students are presented with the opportunity to conduct field studies and data collection within relevant activities, in Sweden as well as abroad.

It is compulsory for the students to participate in at least three public discussion and examination seminars, in addition to the seminar in which they themselves defend their own paper or serve as the student reviewer for a another student's paper. Students that for some reason cannot participate in the scheduled public discussion and examination seminars will be offered to participate at another time.

Personal professional development in police work

The course includes advanced studies of the importance of reflection on the students own experiences as well as those of their fellow students, gained during the previous period of traineeship. The importance of reflection is included in the Police Authority's strategic initiative; development and improvement activities run by employees. The Police Reform of 2015 stipulates that employees within the Police shall develop and grow in their approach in relation to the management and governance. By the use of this approach, structures are built based on the aspect of "bottom-up".

During the traineeship, continuous reflection on the everyday work takes place by the trainee together with the assigned supervisor from the Police Authority. These reflections are documented in a logbook which together with the studies conducted form the basis of the course Personal professional development in police work, in which students are expected to grow in their future roles as police officers.

The course is linked to the theoretical and practical elements of previous courses, concerning the socialisation process that an individual goes through in the new professional role as a police officer.

The course also includes experience exchange under the supervision of a teacher. Seminars will be held where students invidually in base groups shall reflect on their own experiences from the traineeship, in relation to the course literature, lectures and previous studies conducted within the police education.

Lectures are also held on how reflection may be used in the police work, and why reflection was introduced as a tool within the Police Reform of 2015 in order to promote development and improvement activities run by employees. A paper shall also be written based on their own experiences from a situation during the traineeship, where the students shall reflect on the subject based on their knowledge acquired during the basic training.

At the end of the course, each base group shall carry out an exercise in front of the class, which is based on the experiences from a situation during the traineeship, and the

class will subsequently reflect on the situation presented.

The final element of the subject Health is also included, where current work environment issues within the police profession are looked into, based on the previous placement and with the emphasis on the rights and obligations that fall upon employees as well as management.

The compulsory elements in the course are the reflection seminar on the police profession, a seminar on work environment and health within the police profession, and participation in a session involving classroom exercises.

Type of Instruction

Thesis; teaching takes place in the form of individual supervision as well as part of a group, and public discussion and examination seminars. Students shall at these seminars defend their own papers as well as serve as the student reviewer for another student's paper. Personal professional development in police work; knowledge acquisition takes place in the form of individual work, base group work, seminars, lectures and practical application. Students are expected to take an active part in discussions held during lectures and seminars. The working methods as well as the examination formats are intended to help the students develop the ability to express themselves in an objective manner and adopt a critical approach, orally as well as in writing.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).

Thesis

Examination takes place through two examination elements, one in which the student shall write and defend their own paper and one where the student shall serve as the student reviewer for another student's paper.

In order to receive a grade of Pass in the course, the student is required to write and defend a paper that clearly demonstrates that the intended learning outcomes of the course are attained.

To be awarded a grade of Pass with Distinction in the course, the student is required to present and defend a paper that is additionally coherent and well-reasoned with reference to the background, problem definition, research methods, presentation of findings, data analysis, and discussion. The relevant field of knowledge shall be comprehensive and shall include scientific references and possibly also the theory applicable, and the presentation of the findings shall be complete and well described. The data analysis of the findings shall be well conducted and shall include clear links to previous research and possibly the chosen theory. The discussion of the degree project shall also be well-reasoned and have clear links to the other content of the paper.

Personal professional development in police work

Examination takes place by means of a written assignment and participation in two seminars, one reflection seminar on the professional role as a police officer, and one on the work environment and health aspects within the police profession.

In order to receive a grade of Pass in the course, it is required that the student participate in the compulsory classroom exercise. The student shall also in the reflection seminar, the seminar on work environment and in the written assignment clearly demonstrate that the intended learning outcomes of the course are attained.

To be awarded a grade of Pass with Distinction in the course, it is required that the seminar and the written assignment are assessed as Pass with Distinction, which involves well developed analytical thoughts and reasoning on the experiences from

situations during the training, in relation to adequate theoretical basis.

Course Evaluation

A course evaluation is carried out at the end of the course, which is compiled in writing and presented to the students who have completed the course. The results are presented to the programme council and filed by the Department of Police Work.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Thesis

Relevant literature is chosen in consultation with the supervisor based on the chosen research field and research method.

Personal professional development in police work

Tengblad, Stefan. (2009). *Medarbetarskap på 60 minuter*. Technical Report. Skövde Högskola. ISSN 1404-1952, 37 p.

Westerlund, Gösta., & Strand Westerlund, Anette. (2011). *Ordningsstörande brott : en studie av brottsbalken och annan lagstiftning, särskilt polislagen*. Stockholm : Bruun, 2011 (Sverige : Elander). ISBN: 9789186346546. 294 p.

Polismyndigheten, (latest edition). *Polismyndighetens styrmodell*. Stockholm: Polismyndigheten. 26 p.

Optional literature related to the situations that the student is looking into, approx. 500 pages.