



## Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences

Department of Criminology and Police Work

1PA01U Polisiär grundkurs, 8 högskolepoäng

Basic police work, 8 credits

### **Main field of study**

Police Work

### **Subject Group**

Other Subjects within Social Science

### **Level of classification**

First Level

### **Progression**

G1N

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved by Faculty of Social Sciences 2019-10-16

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2019

### **Prerequisites**

NO VALUE DEFINED

## Objectives

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

- describe the basic elements of the police mission to ensure order, safety and security in society,
- use basic group psychology concepts as well as apply these in discussions related to police activities,
- by the use of adequate theoretical evidence, discuss the concept of a professional approach in police work with regard to the basis of knowledge, approach and ethics as well as put this in relation to the police ordinance as well as on the basis of the document on fundamental values in the police organisation,
- account for theories of communication applied to police work such as the communicative approach,
- describe the mental preparation in the short term as well as in the long term, and acute stress management, and account for different coping strategies,
- account for behavioural scientific theories and concepts of for instance social cognition, social impact, stress, aggressiveness and deviant behaviour,
- analyse the application of these theories to police work with regard to for instance decision-making and prejudice,
- analyse and discuss various aspects of content and consequences of ethical dilemmas in police work,
- apply fundamental police laws such as the Police Act, the Care of Intoxicated Persons Act, the Act on Detention, and the Act on the prohibition of knives and other dangerous objects.

## Content

This course discusses the basic elements of the police mission to ensure order, safety and security in society. Relevant legislation such as the Police Act, the Police Ordinance and current documentation requirements are discussed and put into context. Some use of coercive measures such as legal authority, other grounds of discharge and regulations concerning the use of means of power (firearms, batons and OC) are also introduced.

Ethical and legal aspects on the police role in terms of behaviour, response and action are presented.

Behavioural science as well as the fields of communicative approach and social psychology are integrated in this course. The behavioural scientific elements focus on basic psychological theories and key concepts, interpersonal relations and communication. Aspects discussed concern encounters with people, how we function as human beings on the basis of social codes and how we may understand ourselves and others in different situations.

The concept of conflict management strategies is presented within the field of communicative approach, and different aspects in relation to the communication between people are also discussed.

Within the field of social psychology, students gain advanced knowledge of the correlation between stress, thoughts, feelings and behaviours. Stress management is included and this course element thus strengthens the aspect of the field of social psychology in police conflict management.

## Type of Instruction

Teaching is mainly conducted by the use of problem-based methods. Knowledge acquisition in the elements takes place through individual work, base group work, supervision, seminars, lectures, literature studies and practical application.

## Examination

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

Examination of the course takes place by means of four seminars, two written assignments and one written examination in law.

In order to receive a grade of Pass, students must attain the intended learning outcomes of the course in all examinations. For a grade of Pass with Distinction in the course, it is required that the student obtains the grade of Pass with Distinction for the written exam in law, which requires an independent analytical reasoning concerning the contexts between statements in the Police Act, other ordinances and the application of the law. The student must also obtain the grade of Pass for the other elements included in the examination.

A retake of the examination is provided in accordance with the Local Regulations for First-Cycle and Second-Cycle Courses and Examination at Linnaeus University.

Should the university determine that a student is entitled to special educational support due to impairment, the examiner may provide the student with an adapted test or the student may carry out the examination in an alternative way.

## Course Evaluation

A course evaluation is carried out either during or at the end of the course. Results and analysis of the evaluation are presented to the students who have completed the course as well as to the students at the following course date. The course evaluation is conducted anonymously.

## Credit Overlap

The course cannot be included in a degree along with the following courses of which the content fully, or partly, corresponds to the content of this course: 1PX12U Basic police work, 7.5 credits.

### Other

This course is included in the Functional Police Programme.

### Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Berggren, Nils-Olof. & Munck, Johan. (Latest edition). *Polislagen, en kommentar*. Stockholm: Wolters Kluwer. (253 p.)

Dahlgren, Niklas. (Latest edition). *Knivlagen, bakgrund och tillämpning*. Stockholm: Norstedts Juridik, (90 p.)

Granér, Rolf. & Denward, Sara. (Latest edition). *Kompendium i socialpsykologi och etik*, (250 p.) Can be purchased at the Copycenter.

Granér, Rolf & Granér, Simon. (2016). *Personalgruppens psykologi*. Lund: Studentlitteratur, (216 p.) ISBN: 9789144113241

Granér, Rolf., Gundhus, Helene Oppen Ingebrigtsen & Larsson, Paul. (Eds.) (2016). *Polisvetenskap: en introduktion*. Lund: Studentlitteratur AB. (19 p.) ISBN: 9789144107790.

Knutsson, Maria & Granér, Rolf. (2000). *Etik i polisarbete*. Lund: Studentlitteratur, (150 p.) ISBN: 9789144014883.

Nilsson, Björn & Waldermansson, Anna-Karin, (2016). *Kommunikation: samspel mellan människor*. Lund: Studentlitteratur, (165 p.) ISBN: 9789144110660.

Thunholm, Patrik, (2011). *Lag om omhändertagande av berusade LOB. En vårdlag eller ett maktmedel*. Linnaeus University studies in policing #003-2011. Växjö: Linnéuniversitetet, (90 p.)

FAP (Föreskrifter och allmänna råd för polisen) 023-1, 101-2, 104-2. Polismyndigheten, (15 p.)

Lag (1980:578) om ordningsvakter, 3 p.

Polismyndigheten (2015). *Polisiär konflikthantering*. Provided by the department. (15 p.)

Articles, legal cases, complaints to the Parliamentary Ombudsmen (JO) and reports are also included as per instructions given, approximately 100 pages.