



Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences

Department of Social Studies

ISO181 Sociologi med arbetslivsinriktning, 30 högskolepoäng
ISO181 Sociology, specializing in working life, 30 credits

Main field of study

Sociology

Subject Group

Sociology

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G1N

Date of Ratification

Approved by Faculty of Social Sciences 2022-11-14

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2023

Prerequisites

General entry requirements for university studies.

Objectives

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

- account for key concepts, theories and perspectives of sociology,
- describe, interpret and explain phenomena related to the working life, by the use of relevant sociological concepts and theories,
- define a relevant problem within the field of working life sociology and discuss this by the use of the theory of sociology,
- describe and distinguish fundamental epistemological perspectives and their relation to different research strategies,
- account for the relation between research question, theory, method and empiricism in a sociological research process,
- write short sociological texts with accuracy of concepts and a clear outline.

Module specific objectives

Module 1 Labour market, organisation and working life, 7.5 credits

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

- describe and discuss key phenomena within the field of labour market and working life,
- analyse and explain how different working and living conditions may differ in terms of sex, social class, ethnicity and age,
- orally as well as in writing, at a general level analyse and explain current working life issues.

Module 2 Introduction to sociology, 7.5 credits

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

- account for core concepts, theories and perspectives within the field of sociology,
- describe, interpret and explain social stratification by the use of relevant sociological concepts and theories,
- write short texts within the subject of sociology with accuracy of concepts and a clear outline.

Module 3 Research design, 7.5 credits

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

- account for empirical research strategies and their epistemological conditions,
- account for the relation between a research question, theory and empiricism in a sociological research process,
- define the relevant choices of methods in relation to the sociological issues,
- distinguish the specific conditions of the social scientific knowledge production and distinguish between normative and descriptive assertions of society.

Module 4 Exploring changes in the working life, 7.5 credits

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

- use relevant sociological concepts, theories and perspectives to describe changes in the working life,
- define a relevant problem within the field of sociology of working life and discuss this in relation to sociological theories and methodology,
- orally as well as in writing account for the the relation between research question, theory and empiricism in a specific sociological research process.

Content

The course consists of four modules:

Module 1 Labour market, organisation and working life, 7.5 credits

The course provides knowledge of the labour market and working life. By the use of concepts of power, division of work, work organisation, culture and structure, the conditions and function of work in society are discussed, as well as in modern organisations and for the individual. The module also discusses the methods and key actors of the labour market, with regard to employers' and employee organisations, authorities, policies, and certain conditions of employment and working.

Module 2 Introduction to sociology, 7.5 credits

Module 2 provides an orientation towards sociology as a science - its growth and distinctive features. The focus is placed on fundamental sociological perspectives, micro, meso and macro perspectives and the key theories and concepts found within these different perspectives, such as theory of action and interactionism, functionalism and system theory, as well as theory of class and conflict. This also includes discussion

on the possibilities for action for the individual and the interaction between individuals, how society is organised, and the social stratification of society.

Module 3 Research design, 7.5 credits

The course is an introductory orientation towards what science is and how this differs from other forms of knowledge claims. Fundamental aspects of the theory of science are also discussed and how social scientific studies are planned and carried out. The module is an initial introduction to the epistemological and practical conditions of the social scientific methods and introduces themes that make up the foundation of further methodological advanced studies.

Module 4 Exploring changes in the working life, 7.5 credits

The course is focused on changes in the working life at different levels (micro, meso and macro). On the basis of previous research, the students define research questions relevant to the field of sociology, and identify and account for the type of empirical knowledge required to explain these issues. Within the scope of the theme of changes in the working life, the aim of the course is also to practice the application of theories in relation to an independently defined issue. Empirical background material is provided by the course coordinating teachers. Examination of the module takes place by the students producing a recorded presentation in which the sociological problem is justified and where possible theories and methods are discussed.

Type of Instruction

Teaching takes place in the form of lectures, workshops and seminars, where some of which are compulsory. Compulsory elements may be supplemented by written assignments.

Examination

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

In order to receive a final grade of Pass with Distinction in the course, it is required that at least 22.5 credits are assessed as Pass with Distinction.

Module 1: Examination of the objectives takes place by means of a written individual assignment in the form of a take-home exam.

Module 2: Examination of the objectives takes place by means of a written individual assignment in the form of a take-home exam.

Module 3: Examination of the objectives takes place by means of a written exam.

Module 4: Examination of the objectives takes place by means an oral presentation together with a powerpoint presentation.

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 new 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 course/courses of which the content fully, or partly, corresponds to the content of this course: ISO102 (modules 1,2 and 3), 22.5 credits, and ISO180 (module 1), 7.5 credits.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Module 1. Labour market, organisation and working life, 7.5 credits

Bengtsson, Mattias och Berglund, Tomas (eds.) (2017) *Arbetslivet*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. (530 p.)

Dysthe, Olga, Hertzberg, Frøydis och Løkensgard Hoel, Torlaug (Latest edition) *Skriva för att lära*. Lund: Studentlitteratur (223 p.)

Sandberg, Åke (ed.) (2019) *Arbete & välfärd. Ledning, personal och organisationsmodeller i Sverige*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. (Selected pages, ca. 400 p.)

Additional literature comprising circa 50 pages may also be included as per the teacher's instructions.

Module 2. Introduction to sociology, 7.5 credits

Ahrne: Göran (2007) *Att se samhället*. Malmö: Liber. (124 p.)

Edling, Christofer och Liljeros, Fredrik (eds.) (2010) *Ett delat samhälle: makt, intersektionalitet och social skiktning*. Malmö: Liber. (184 p.)

Engdahl Oskar & Bengt (2011) *Sociologiska perspektiv grundläggande begrepp och teorier*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. (425 p.)

Module 3. Research design, 7.5 credits

Birkler, Jacob (latest edition). *Vetenskapsteori: En grundbok*. Stockholm: Liber (140 p.)

Bryman, Alan (latest edition). *Samhällsvetenskapliga Metoder*. Stockholm: Liber (877 p.)

Hansson, Bengt (latest edition). *Skapa Vetande: Vetenskapsteori från grunden*. Lund: Studentlitteratur (ca. 100 p.)

Additional literature comprising circa 150 pages may also be included as per the teacher's instructions.

Module 4. Exploring changes in the working life, 7.5 credits

Ahrne, G., & Papakostas, A. (2014). *Organisationer, samhälle och globalisering: Tröghetens mekanismer och förnyelsens förutsättningar*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. (224 p.)

Sveningsson, S., & Alvesson, M. (2014). *Förändringsarbete i organisationer-om att utveckla företagskulturer*. Liber. (264 p.)

Scientific publications also included, comprising ca. 100-150 pages.

Works of reference:

Engdahl Oskar & Bengt (2011) *Sociologiska perspektiv grundläggande begrepp och teorier*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. (425 p.)