Linnæus University

Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences
Department of Social Studies

1SO215 Tematisk sociologi: Digitaliseringens sociologi, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Thematic Sociology: Sociology of Digitalization, 7.5 credits

Main field of study
Sociology

Subject Group
Sociology

Level of classification
First Level

Progression
G1F

Date of Ratification
Approved by Faculty of Social Sciences 2021-12-01
The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2022

Prerequisites
A minimum of 45 credits in Sociology, or the equivalent.

Objectives
Upon completion of the course, students shall be able to:

- Identify key knowledge areas within the subject Sociology of Digitalisation, as well as describe and summarise relevant perspectives on digital development and its consequences to the individual and society.

- Define sociological concepts and summarise theories and significant research findings concerning: A) in what ways digitalisation shapes and is shaped by social, political and economic changes; B) in what ways digital development impacts the relation between the individual and society concerning for instance integrity, surveillance, production, consumption and participation; C) in what ways the above aspects impact and are impacted by for instance gender, social class, ethnicity and age.

- Orally and in writing, problematise and analyse the meaning of concepts and theories within the field of sociology of digitalisation, as well as be able to apply these and adopt a critical approach to the strengths and weaknesses that characterise different perspectives on digital development.

Content

The course discusses sociological perspectives on the consequences of digital development to social relations at different levels of society. Based on areas such as politics, everyday life, organisation and economy, the course discusses in what ways digitalisation impacts the relation between the individual and society. Issues concerning for instance integrity, surveillance, production, consumption and participation are problematised in relation to social stratification.

Type of Instruction

Teaching takes place in the form of lectures, seminars and workshops. The seminars (4 sessions) are compulsory. The compulsory components are not examination elements, but are, however, required in order to receive a final grade in the course.

Examination

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

Examination of the course objectives takes place by means of an individual written take-home exam. All the compulsory elements must also be completed in order to receive a final grade in the course.

In order to receive a grade of Pass, the course objectives must be attained.

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.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Lindgren, Simon (2017). *Digital Media and Society: Theories, Topics and Tools.* Thousand Oaks: SAGE (320 pages). ISBN: 9781473925014

Perrian, Jessamy & Carter, Simon (2021). *Understanding Digital Societies.* Los Angeles: SAGE (selected parts, circa 350 pages). ISBN: 9781529732580

Umoja Noble, Safie (2018). *Algorithms of Oppression: How search engines reinforce racism.* NY: NYU Press (256 pages). ISBN: 1479833649. (E-bok)

Scientific publications and reports comprising approximately 200 pages also included.