



Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences

Department of Social Studies

1SO217 Tematisk sociologi: Rural/urban sociologi: Plats, stratifiering och lokal utveckling, 7,5 högskolepoäng

1SO217 Thematic Sociology: Rural/Urban Sociology: Place, Stratification and Local Development, 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

General entry requirements for university studies. A minimum of 45 credits in Sociology, or the equivalent.

Objectives

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

- identify and account for key sociological perspectives, theories and concepts within the field of rural and urban sociology,
- describe and summarise relevant sociological perspectives on the transformations of urban and rural areas and the consequences to the individual and the society,
- define sociological concepts and summarise theories and significant research findings concerning: A) in what ways urban and rural areas have shaped and been shaped by social, political and economic changes in relation to the temporal perspective as well as to the spatial perspective; B) in what ways the power and dependency relations within and between urban and rural areas may be described, and how these relations shape conceptions of and the possibility for action for different individuals, groups and places; C) how people through

different kinds of organisation and initiatives for local development attempt to handle and make use of the conditions of the social and geographic periphery, in the urban as well as in the rural context,

- orally and in writing, discuss the meaning of concepts and theories within the field of rural and urban sociology, and adopt a critical approach to the strengths and weaknesses that characterise different perspectives on the transformations of urban and rural areas,
- apply sociological perspectives on urban and rural areas to a specific place by the use of various analyses.

Content

The course discusses sociological perspectives on the transformations of urban and rural areas and the associated consequences to the individual and society. The course focuses on the relation between the core and the periphery, and discusses issues on how place-bound conditions are related to the principles of social stratification such as social class, gender, ethnicity and age. The ways people through different kinds of organisation and initiatives for local development attempt to handle and make use of the conditions of the social and geographic periphery are also discussed, in the urban as well as in the rural context.

Type of Instruction

Teaching takes place in the form of lectures, seminars, workshops and excursions. 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

Brown, David L. & Schafft, Kai A. (2019[2019]). *Rural people and communities in the 21st century: resilience and transformation*. Second edition. Cambridge, UK: Polity Press (selected parts, ca. 200 p.) ISBN: 9781509529858.

Chen, Xiangming, Orum, Anthony M. & Paulsen, Krista E. (2018). *Introduction to*

cities: how place and space shape human experience. Second edition. Chichester, West Sussex: John Wiley & Sons Ltd. (432 p.) ISBN: 9781119167716.

Fulkerson, Gregory M. & Thomas, Alexander R. (2019). *Urbanormativity: reality, representation and everyday life*. London: Lexington books. (204 p.) ISBN: 9780739178768.

Scientific publications and reports comprising 200 pages also included.