



Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences

Department of Criminology and Police Work

2PA300 Fördjupningskurs I i polisiärt arbete, 30 högskolepoäng

2PA300 Advanced course I in police work, 30 credits

Main field of study

Police Work

Subject Group

Other Subjects within Social Science

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G2F

Date of Ratification

Approved by Faculty of Social Sciences 2022-12-12

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2023

Prerequisites

In addition to general entry requirements for higher education, 120 credits in police work is required as well as completed police officer trainee training or completed first-cycle programme in police work.

Objectives

Module 1: Scientific knowledge and professional expertise, 7.5 credits

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

- account for the different forms of current research studies in social sciences relevant to the field of police work,
- account for and analyse critically situations in the police practice on the basis of scientific concepts,
- problematise how own experiences, best practice and scientific knowledge can be related to the police work.

Module 2: Research in police work, 7.5 credits

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

- account for the current fields of research in police work and relate these to the professional police practice,

- identify research within a chosen field of interest relevant to police work,
- account for a selection of scientific literature relevant to the own field of interest,
- carry out academic writing with special emphasis on reference techniques when writing their own texts.

Module 3: Data collection and analysis methods, 7.5 credits

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

- account for different qualitative methods and assess critically their different strengths and weaknesses in relation to research issues in police work,
- account for different quantitative methods and assess critically their different strengths and weaknesses in relation to research issues in police work.

Module 4: Independent project, 7.5 credits

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

- identify, define and formulate an examinable research issue within the field of police work,
- produce a structured, well supported, formally correct and linguistically consistent research paper,
- defend their study as well as critically review and discuss fellow students' papers.

Content

Within the scope of the course, the students are expected to enhance their professional expertise in police work. The course provides methodological and theoretical tools in order for the students to adopt a scientific approach to police work. Within the scope of the course, students learn to identify practice-based issues, search for relevant research literature and apply a scientific method and write independent papers.

Module 1: Scientific knowledge and professional expertise, 7.5 credits

This module deals with the relation between experiences from the professional police practice and different orientations of research in police work. In order to tie together an academic approach and experiences from the police practice, students analyse situations obtained from their own professional practice. Within the scope of the course, the students are given the opportunity to enhance their understanding of research-based development of the professional expertise in police work.

Module 2: Research in police work, 7.5 credits

The module introduces the students to main and current research issues relevant to the field of police work. After initially studying the breadth of the research field, the students are given the chance to focus on their own field of interest relevant to police work. By searching out and compiling research articles related to their own field of interest, they acquire the skills required to independently examine issues in police work and how to work with police method development. They also practice academic writing.

Module 3: Data collection and analysis methods, 7.5 credits

The module introduces the students to main and current social scientific data collection and analysis methods relevant to studies in police work. The methodology course is intended to develop the students' knowledge of research methods and analysis techniques in the social sciences, to enhance the ability to study research in police work and the ability to relate methods to different kinds of research issues.

Module 4: Independent project, 7.5 credits

Within the scope of the module, the students shall produce an independent project relevant to police work. The students are given the opportunity to combine the knowledge and competence developed in the previous modules, in order to under supervision define an examinable research issue, search for relevant literature, make use of a scientific method, and write an independent project. The student shall in consultation with the supervisor plan, carry out, and defend their paper, as well as participate in a public discussion and examination of another student's paper.

Type of Instruction

Teaching takes place in the form of lectures, seminars and supervision, individually as well as in groups. A main feature in the course is linking the practical experiences to a scientific approach.

Examination

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

Module 1: Scientific knowledge and professional expertise, 7.5 credits

Examination of the course objectives takes place by means of five individual written assignments that lead to a final overall assessment comprising 7.5 credits.

Module 2: Research in police work, 7.5 credits

Examination of the course objectives takes place by means of two individual written assignments that lead to a final overall assessment comprising 7.5 credits.

Module 3: Data collection and analysis methods, 7.5 credits

Examination of the course objectives takes place by means of one take-home exam in qualitative methods (4 credits) and one take-home exam in qualitative methods (3.5 credits).

Module 4: Independent project, 7.5 credits

Examination of the course objectives takes place by means of the student writing and submitting an independent project and by defending their paper in a seminar. The student shall also carry out and pass the assignment as the student reviewer at a public discussion and examination.

In order to receive a grade of Pass in the entire course, it is required that all the examination elements receive at least the grade of Pass. For a grade of Pass with Distinction in the entire course, it is required that the independent project and an additional 15 credits are assessed as Pass with Distinction.

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: 2PX90X Advanced course in police work, 30 credits and 1PA91E Advanced course in police work, 30 credits.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Module 1 Scientific knowledge and professional expertise, 7.5 credits

Avby, Gunilla (latest edition). *Att utveckla professionell expertis: en bok om kunskap och lärande*. Edition 1 Lund: Studentlitteratur. (171 p.)

Course compendiums provided by the department, and a selection of literature that the student selects in consultation with the teacher, comprising approximately 500 pages.

Module 2 Research in police work, 7.5 credits

Larsson, Paul, Granér, Rolf & Gundhus, Helene I. (Eds.) (Latest edition). *Polisvetenskap: en introduktion*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. (387 p.)

Course compendiums provided by the department, and a selection of literature that the student selects in consultation with the teacher, comprising approximately 500 pages.

Module 3 Data collection and analysis methods, 7.5 credits

Bryman, Alan. (Latest edition). *Samhällsvetenskapliga metoder*. Tredje upplagan Stockholm: Liber. (877 p.)

Fekjær, Silje Bringsrud, Dalén, Hans & Thelander, Joakim. (Latest edition). *Att tolka och förstå statistik om brott*. Malmö: Gleerups. (112 p.)

Rennstam, Jens & Wästerfors, David. (Latest edition). *Från stoff till studie: om analysarbete i kvalitativ forskning*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. (197 p.)

Module 4 Independent project, 7.5 credits

Course literature is chosen in consultation between the student and the teacher, depending on the student's choice of topic and specialisation.