



## Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences

Department of police work

2PA90E Fördjupningskurs II i polisiärt arbete, inkl. självständigt arbete, 30 högskolepoäng

Advanced course II in police work, incl. independent project, 30 credits

### **Main field of study**

Police Work

### **Subject Group**

Other Subjects within Social Science

### **Level of classification**

First Level

### **Progression**

G2E

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved by Faculty of Social Sciences 2021-04-21

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2022

### **Prerequisites**

General entry requirements and a degree certificate from the police education and training programme, as well as completed Advanced Course I in Police Work including an independent project comprising 60 credits or the equivalent, in social sciences, behavioural science or law, of which at least 30 credits at the level of G1E.

## Objectives

### **Module 1 Theory and Analysis in Social Sciences, 7.5 credits**

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

- account for problems related to the profession and give suggestions on how to look into the problems in a scientific manner,
- critically examine and account for scientific approaches and the importance of research to the police professional practice,
- account for what constitutes a scientific theory and how this is applied in scientific texts,
- account for selected theories and analytical concepts in the field of social sciences and identify relevant contexts within police work where these theories may be applied.

### **Module 2 Research Methods in Social Sciences, 7.5 credits**

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

- account for qualitative and quantitative methods in relation to different kinds of research questions within the field of police work,
- practice scientific writing by developing a plan for the thesis,
- evaluate and reflect on research ethical considerations.

### **Module 3 Independent Project for a Degree of Bachelor, 15 credits**

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

- independently plan, carry out and present a scientific study of a research problem within the field of police work in the form of an independent project,
- manage comments from the supervisor in a constructive manner which contributes to and further the progress of the independent project,
- in a constructive manner serve as the student reviewer for fellow students' independent projects, by the use of scientific awareness,
- defend their own paper as well as put this and the papers of their fellow students in relation to relevant societal, police related and ethical aspects.

### **Content**

The course consists of three modules; theory and analysis methods within the field of social sciences, methodology course, and independent project. The aim of the modules is that students shall deepen their knowledge of research methods and theoretical concepts in the field of social sciences, relevant to analyses of police work in order to gain a deeper understanding of the theories, methods and analysis techniques within social sciences. One important feature in the course is discussion on how to move from concrete problems in the professional role to research and development of methods.

#### **Module 1 Theory and Analysis in Social Sciences, 7.5 credits**

The module discusses key theoretical and analysis traditions within the social sciences and focuses on advanced knowledge of a few important theoretical traditions within contemporary social sciences. The course also includes the different steps within the research process and the definition of research problems and theoretical bases.

#### **Module 2 Research Methods in Social Sciences, 7.5 credits**

The different methodological bases of the research process are looked into. The aim of the module is to provide knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research methods, with a specialisation in the student's own choice of method in relation to their own research problem definition. The course also discusses research ethical issues in relation to police work.

#### **Module 3 Independent Project for a Degree of Bachelor, 15 credits**

The aim of the module is for students to acquire knowledge and skills in order to enhance their professional and scientific competence. The students shall independently identify, define and analyse a relevant research problem in the field of police work, in order to gain a deepened understanding of the research process.

### **Type of Instruction**

Teaching takes place in the form of lectures, seminars and practical sessions.

### **Examination**

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

#### **Module 1 Theory and Analysis in Social Sciences, 7.5 credits**

Examination of the course objectives takes place by means of an individual written assignment in problem definition (3 credits) and a take-home exam in theoretical

application (4.5 credits).

### **Module 2 Research Methods in Social Sciences, 7.5 credits**

Examination of the course objectives takes place by means of a take-home exam in quantitative methods completed individually or in pairs (3 credits) and a research plan (4.5 credits) including a seminar discussion.

### **Module 3 Independent Project for a Degree of Bachelor, 15 credits**

The independent project shall be presented in writing as well as orally. The student shall at the final examination seminar present in writing and orally defend their project in its entirety as well as critically examine and discuss another independent project.

In order to receive a grade of Pass in the course, all the examinations must be assessed as Pass. For a grade of Pass with Distinction in the course, it is required that the independent project is 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 courses of which the content fully, or partly, corresponds to the content of this course: 2PX901, 15 credits and 2PX90E, 15 credits.

### **Other**

Students who have completed a research assignment within the field of social sciences of similar kind and extent as the independent project in another context, may request that they be given credit for this as their independent project in this course. In relation to such a request, the documents in question are examined by the Director of studies who assesses whether the entire independent project may be considered completed or if certain elements require supplementary additions, or if credit shall not be given.

### **Required Reading and Additional Study Material**

Alvehus, Johan. (Latest edition). *Problemformulering*. Edition 1 Lund: Studentlitteratur. (110 p.).

Barmark, Mimmi & Djurfeldt, Göran. (Latest edition). *Statistisk verktygslåda 0: att förstå och förändra världen med siffror*. 1st ed. Lund: Studentlitteratur. (198 p.).

David, Matthew & Sutton, Carole D. (Latest edition). *Samhällsvetenskaplig metod*. Lund: Studentlitteratur AB. (496 p.).

Thomassen, Magdalene. (Latest edition). *Vetenskap, kunskap och praxis: introduktion till vetenskapsfilosofi*. Malmö: Gleerups utbildning. (234 p.).

Theoretical compendium provided by the department.

Additional course literature, comprising approximately 1,000 pages, to be decided on in consultation between student and teacher depending on the choice of subject and

specialisation.