



## Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences

Department of Criminology and Police Work

2PX90X Fördjupningskurs i polisiärt arbete, 30 högskolepoäng

Advanced course 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 2019-04-24

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2019

### Prerequisites

In addition to general entry requirements for higher education, completed and passed courses equivalent to 120 credits within the field of social sciences, behavioural science or law are also required, with a minimum of 60 credits in the main field of study, police work, or the equivalent.

## Objectives

### *Module 1 - Police Science*

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

- Account for the main field of research within police work.
- Describe and reflect critically on the key research issues relevant to the field of police work.
- Evaluate and distinguish between research findings, best practice and personal values.

### *Module 2 - Evaluation Knowledge*

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

- Describe and evaluate critically various types of evaluation and the design of evaluations.
- Formulate a relevant evaluation assignment/directive possible to realise.
- Conduct an evaluation that fulfils stated directives/evaluation assignments, and that meets the quality requirements in force regarding evaluations.

### *Module 3 - Research Methods*

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

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- Account for different qualitative and quantitative methods applied for the study of different kinds of research issues within the field of police work.
- Formulate a research problem, data collection method and analysis method in a feasible research design.
- Apply established reference techniques.

#### *Module 4 - Independent Project*

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

- Independently define and formulate a research problem, relevant to the field of police work.
- Produce a structured, well founded, formally correct and linguistically clear research assignment.
- Defend their own paper as well as review, evaluate and discuss fellow students' papers.

### **Content**

The course is divided into four modules, each comprising 7.5 credits. The aim of the course is for students to enhance their knowledge of research into the field of police science and skills in investigation work, evaluations and other forms of basis for decisions within policing. The different stages of the research process are also discussed, as well as the consequences of different methodological choices, qualitative analysis and the ability to interpret and understand statistics. Students will also enhance their skills in information retrieval at the library and in data bases. Special emphasis is placed on the critical examination and evaluation of different kinds of source material.

#### **Module 1 Police Science**

The module Police Science focuses on the issues, themes and discourses within the study of police activities and the role of the police as a social actor. Various examples of practice-based research relevant to the Swedish and the Scandinavian conditions are also looked into.

#### **Module 2 Evaluation Knowledge**

The module Evaluation Knowledge focuses on the critical study of examples on completed investigations within the public sector. These are also evaluated in a subject as well as in an investigative perspective, based on approach, issues, methods and ethical dilemmas in relation to the investigation context.

#### **Module 3 Research Methods**

In this module, students shall establish a broad familiarity with research methods and analysis techniques within the field of social science.

#### **Module 4 Independent Project**

In this module, students shall apply acquired methodological knowledge by starting out with a practical problem and moving on to an examinable research issue. They shall also in consultation with the supervisor plan, conduct and defend their paper or evaluation, as well as act as the external reviewer for a fellow student's project. The project is individually written and presented in the form of an academic paper.

### **Type of Instruction**

Teaching takes place in the form of lectures, seminars and supervision, individually as well as in groups. A main theme is the link between practical experiences and a scientific approach. Participation in seminars is compulsory. Absence is supplemented with a written assignment. The following elements are compulsory: Police Science; Seminar 1, Seminar 2, Seminar 3, Seminar 4, Seminar 5. Evaluation Knowledge; Preparatory seminar, Public discussion and examination seminar. Research Methods; Discussion seminar. Independent Project; Public discussion and examination seminar.



## Examination

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

### Module 1 Police Science

Examination of the objectives takes place regularly through weekly compulsory examination seminars including oral presentations based on individual written assignments. Five examination assignments, each comprising 1.5 credits, in total 7.5 credits.

### Module 2 Evaluation Knowledge

Examination of the objectives takes place by means of an individual written assignment in the form of an evaluation or investigation assignment, to be presented orally at a seminar. The assignment comprises 7.5 credits.

### Module 3 Research Methods

Examination of the objectives takes place by means of an individual written assignment in the form of a research design, to be presented orally at a seminar. The assignment comprises 7.5 credits.

### Module 4 Independent Project

Examination of the objectives takes place by means of the student writing and submitting a paper, that shall also be defended at a seminar. The student shall also conduct and pass the assignment as the external reviewer at a public discussion and examination. The assignment comprises 7.5 credits.

In order to receive a grade of Pass in the entire course, all the examination components must be assessed as Pass. To be awarded a grade of Pass with Distinction in the entire course, it is required that the evaluation assignment and the independent project are assessed as Pass with Distinction, and the other examination components as Pass.

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 has the right 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

### Module 1 Police Science

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

Lindström, Peter & Sempert, Ulf (Eds.) (Latest edition). *Kriminologi och polisvetenskap: mötet mellan forskning och praktik*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. 231 pages.

Additional scientific articles or other relevant study material, approx. 500 pages.

### Module 2 Evaluation Knowledge

Lindgren, Lena (latest edition). *Nya utvärderingsmonstret: om kvalitetsmätning i den offentliga sektorn*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. 147 pages.

Sandberg, Bo & Faugert, Sven (latest edition). *Perspektiv på utvärdering*. Lund: Studentlitteratur

Vedung, Evert (latest edition). *Utvärdering i politik och förvaltning*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. 315 pages.

Additional scientific articles, investigations, and/or other relevant study material on approx. 500 pages, chosen in consultation between the student and lecturers depending on the student's choice of subject and orientation.

### **Module 3 Research Methods**

Ahrne, Göran, Ahrne, Göran & Svensson, Peter (latest edition). *Handbok i kvalitativa metoder*. Stockholm: Liber. 275 pages.

Dannefjord, Per (1999). *Metod och problem: en inledning till sociologisk analys*. Växjö: Växjö Universitet. 34 pages. ISBN 9189317009.

Fekjær, Silje Bringsrud (latest edition). *Att tolka och förstå statistik*. Malmö: Gleerup. 96 pages.

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

Additional scientific articles or other relevant study material, approx. 500 pages.

### **Module 4 Independent Project**

Forskningsetiska principer inom humanistisk-samhällsvetenskaplig forskning.  
<http://www.codex.vr.se/texts/HSFR.pdf>. 17 pages.

Strömquist, Siv (latest edition). *Uppsatshandboken: råd och regler för utformningen av examensarbeten och vetenskapliga uppsatser*. Uppsala: Hallgren & Fallgren. 138 pages.

Øyen, Simen Andersen & Solheim, Birger (latest edition). *Akademiskt skrivande: en skrivhandledning*. Malmö: Gleerups Utbildning. 99 pages.

Additional scientific articles and/or study material on approx. 500 pages, chosen in consultation between the student and lecturers and depending on the student's choice of subject and orientation.