



Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences

Department of Social Studies

2SO20E Sociologi med arbetslivsinriktning III - fördjupningskurs,
30 högskolepoäng

2SO20E Sociology, specializing in working life III, 30 credits

Main field of study

Sociology

Subject Group

Sociology

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G2E

Date of Ratification

Approved 2019-11-27

Revised 2023-05-25 by Faculty of Social Sciences. Revision of literature and examination

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2023

Prerequisites

Admission to the course requires completion of courses in Sociology comprising 1-60 credits or the equivalent.

Objectives

After completing the course, students should be able to:

- demonstrate advanced knowledge of the application of sociological theories,
- clarify the importance of theory to research issue, method, empiricism and analysis,
- independently analyse social phenomena,
- evaluate and reflect critically on available methods and apply a method relevant to their own study,
- independently plan and conduct an empirical study based on a defined sociological research issue,
- write and in a public discussion and examination defend a study of scientific relevance,
- critically review another independent project of scientific relevance.

Module 1 The Craft of Theoretical Sociology 7.5 credits

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

- describe and explain the purpose of the different parts included in a scientific study (i.e. outline),
- identify and explain how theory is applied in scientific sociological studies and be able to describe different methods and techniques for the use of theorizing in sociological studies,
- develop sociologically supported research issues within the chosen area,
- critically process and summarise previous research in the chosen area.

Module 2 Sociological Analysis 7.5 credits

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

- evaluate and reflect critically on the available methods and apply a method relevant to their own study,
- independently carry out a sociological analysis of given material.

Module 3 Thesis 15 credits

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

- independently plan and conduct an empirical study based on a defined sociological research issue,
- write and defend an independent project of scientific relevance,
- critically examine another independent project of scientific relevance.

Content

The course consists of three modules.

Module 1 The Craft of Theoretical Sociology 7.5 credits

The aim of the module is for students to orientate themselves in and become aware of how theories are used in all parts of the scientific study, from introduction and problem definition to discussion and conclusions, and the importance of being able to in a creative manner apply theorizing in the completion of all the parts.

The module focuses on deepening the understanding of the relation between research issue, theory, method and empiricism in order to by this gain knowledge of the importance of all the different parts included in a scientific study. Through lectures, seminars and workshops, the students are given the opportunity to practice how to 1) identify a problem area/social phenomenon and describe this by creative observations as well as through previous research, 2) define 2-3 research issues with different orientations within the chosen problem area/social phenomenon, applying different sociological theories and concepts, 3) write an initial research overview developing the issues relevant to the chosen field. Additionally, in 4) is included being able to analyse empirical research publications and/or master theses in sociology in order to become aware of the outline and the included elements of a scientific study.

Module 2 Sociological Analysis 7.5 credits

The aim of the module is to provide knowledge of and skills in sociological analysis. The module consists of two parts, where the first part presents a selection of

sociological analysis methods of a quantitative as well as a qualitative nature. The possibilities as well as limitation of different analysis methods and their appropriateness in relation to a research issues are looked into. The second part of the module is aimed at enhancing the students' practical skills. The students choose to engage in studying either qualitative or quantitative data and practice how to plan and conduct analyses of the same.

Module 3 Thesis 15 credits

The principal element of this module is writing and defending a thesis of limited extent of sociological and scientific relevance, comprising 15 credits. The student shall plan and carry out the independent project under the supervision of their supervisor. Regular supervision is provided during the course, in groups and/or individually. The module also includes carrying out a public discussion and examination of another thesis as well as defending their own.

Type of Instruction

Teaching consists of lectures, group exercises, supervision and seminars.

Examination

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

Examination of module 1, *The Craft of Theoretical Sociology*, takes place by means of an individual written assignment and by participation in practical sessions. In order to receive a grade of Pass in the module, the objectives must be attained. For a grade of Pass with Distinction in the module, the grade of Pass with Distinction is required for the written assignment.

Examination of module 2, *Sociological Analysis*, takes place by means of one individual written assignment, one individual analysis report and by participation in practical sessions. In order to receive a grade of Pass in the module, the objectives must be attained. For a grade of Pass with Distinction in the module, the grade of Pass with Distinction is required for the analysis report.

Examination of module 3, *Thesis*, takes place by means of writing, presenting and defending the thesis and through the public discussion and examination of another thesis. In order to receive a grade of Pass in the module, the objectives must be attained. For a grade of Pass with Distinction in the module, the grade of Pass with Distinction is required for the thesis.

Linguistic skills are evaluated and included in the assessment of all the written examinations.

In order to receive a grade of Pass (G) in the entire course, at least the grade of Pass is required for all the examination assignments in the modules. To be awarded a final grade of Pass with Distinction (VG) in the entire course, it is required that more than 50% of the modules 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 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

List of references Module 1 - The Craft of Theoretical Sociology 7.5 credits

Agnafors, Marcus & Levinsson, Magnus (2019). Att tänka uppsats: det vetenskapliga arbetets grundstruktur. Första upplagan Malmö: Gleerups

Dannefjord, P. (1999). Metod och Problem?: en inledning till sociologisk analys.

Retrieved from Institutionen för samhällsvetenskap website:

<http://urn.kb.se/resolve?urn=urn:nbn:se:vxu:diva-2276>

Swedberg, Richard (2012). Theorizing in sociology and social science: Turning to the context of discovery. *Theory and Society*, 41(1), 1-40

Scientific publications, approx. 250 p.

List of references Module 2 - Sociological Analysis 7.5 credits

Fekjaer, Silje Bringsrud (2016) *Att tolka och förstå statistik*. Malmö: Gleerups. 96 p.

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

Articles are chosen in consultation with the teachers, 200-300 p.

Works of Reference

Djurfeldt, Göran & Barmark, Mimmi. (Latest edition). *Statistisk verktyglåda 1: Samhällsvetenskaplig orsaksanalys med kvantitativa metoder* [2nd ed.] Lund: Studentlitteratur.

Rienecker, Lotte., Stray Jørgensen, Peter. (Latest edition). *Att skriva en bra uppsats*. Stockholm Liber. (150 p.)

List of references Module 3 - Thesis 15 credits

Rienecker, Lotte., Stray Jørgensen, Peter. (Latest edition). *Att skriva en bra uppsats*. Stockholm Liber. (400 p.)

Other literature is chosen in consultation with the course coordinator.