



Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences

Department of Social Studies

2SO300 Sociologi III - fördjupningskurs med praktik, 30 credits
Sociologi III - Specialized Course with practice

Main field of study

Sociology

Subject Group

Sociology

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G2F

Date of Ratification

Approved 2012-08-01

Revised 2022-06-02 by Faculty of Social Sciences. Revision of literature.

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2022

Prerequisites

Admission to the course requires completed courses in Sociology 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,
- apply sociological theories in connection with the working life,
- actively take part in the activities at a workplace,
- present sociologically relevant observations made at a workplace.

Module 1 The craft of Theoretical Sociology 7.5

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

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 Preparation of internship 7.5

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

- independently analyse social phenomena,
- evaluate and reflect critically on the available methods and apply a method relevant to their own study,
- apply sociological theories in connection with the working life.

Module 4 Internship 7.5

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

- actively take part in the activities at a workplace,
- present sociologically relevant observations made at a workplace.

Content

The course consists of four 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 limitations 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 Preparation of internship 7.5 credits

The module is a preparation for the internship, where the students in writing shall evaluate and describe the placement in relation to social as well as organisational factors. The aim of the course is to provide the students with the tools required to examine, problematize and present sociologically relevant conditions at the workplace, as well as improve the conditions of a mutually rewarding placement period.

Module 4 Internship 7.5 credits

The key element in this module is the realisation of the internship. The contents of the internship shall be of sociological relevance and are determined in consultation between the student, the course coordinator and a representative from the placement.

Type of Instruction

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

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 two individual written assignments and through 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 two written assignments.

Examination of module 2, *Sociological Analysis*, takes place by means of one individual written assignment, one individual analysis report and through 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 analysis report.

Examination of module 3, *Preparation of Internship*, takes place by means of one individual written report and one oral presentation. 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 report.

Examination of module 4, *Internship*, takes place by means of completing the internship which is reported in written descriptive weekly reports during the final two weeks of the internship. The module is assessed by the grades of Fail or Pass. In order to Pass the module, the objectives must be attained.

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

In order to receive a grade of Pass 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 in the entire course, it is required that at least 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 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.

Other

The course is only held for students studying the Sociology Programme at the Linnaeus University.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

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

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

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

Scientific publications comprising circa 250 pages.

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 pages.

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.)