



Faculty of Social Sciences

SIMM25, Social Sciences: Fieldwork, 7.5 credits

Social Sciences: Fieldwork, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Graduate School Board on 2011-12-12 and was last revised on 2017-11-21. The revised syllabus applies from 2018-01-15, spring semester 2018.

General Information

The course is offered as an interdisciplinary single subject course in Social Science at the second-cycle level, and as an optional course within the Master of Science Programmes in Development Studies, Global Studies and Social Studies of Gender.

Language of instruction: English

<i>Main field of studies</i>	<i>Depth of study relative to the degree requirements</i>
Media and Communication Studies	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Social Anthropology	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Human Geography	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Education	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Political Science	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Gender Studies	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Social Work	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Development Studies	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Sociology of Law	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

After completion of the course, the student shall be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Identify and critically reflect on fieldwork as a research method in social science,

Competence and skills

- Analyze fieldwork methods used in different contexts,
- Conduct a limited fieldwork study,
- Make informative oral and written presentations, pointing to and elaborate on aspects specific to the fieldwork approach,

Judgement and approach

- Reflect upon the role of the researcher in the field, as well as research ethics in the field.

Course content

The objective of the course is to provide an interdisciplinary analysis of fieldwork as both a method and an intellectual framework within the social sciences. This involves to understand and critical reflect on current theories connected to the discussion on methodology and methodological techniques within the social sciences. To achieve this, the course presents major theories, concepts, methods, techniques and approaches enabling the students to make informed analyses of how fieldwork connects to studies in social sciences.

Apart from presenting and critically discuss major intellectual influences within the fieldwork tradition, the course also deals with how to conduct a fieldwork, including participant observations and interviews. The course will also analyze how to study certain thematic social issues. Participants will critically reflect upon, discuss and present their results.

Course design

The course is based on a combination of lectures and seminars. The lectures have an interdisciplinary focus and students are encouraged to search, analyze and present additional literature themselves. In seminars students will make oral and/or written presentations of the literature and the specific topics. A student assignment, parallel to the lectures and seminars, will be done in the form of a minor fieldwork during the period of the course. The fieldwork will be presented both orally and in writing.

Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, compulsory participation in seminars is required. Students who have been unable to participate due to circumstances such as accidents or sudden illness will be offered the opportunity to compensate for or re-take compulsory components. This also applies to students who have been absent

because of duties as an elected student representative.

Assessment

Assessment of the course will be based on:

- Active participation in seminars
- Oral presentations, individually and/or in groups
- Written examination in the form of papers and critical reflections on the course literature.

The course includes opportunities for assessment at a first examination, a re-sit close to the first examination and a second re-sit for courses that have ended during that school year. Two further re-examinations on the same course content are offered within a year of the end of the course. After this, further re-examination opportunities are offered but in accordance with the current course syllabus.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A.

The student's performance is assessed with reference to the learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of E the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of D the student must show satisfactory results. For the grade of C the student must show good results. For the grade of B the student must show very good results. For the grade of A the student must show excellent results. For the grade of Fail the student must have shown unacceptable results.

The seminars are exempted from the grading scale above. The grades for these components are Pass or Fail. For the grade of Pass, the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of Fail, the student must have shown unacceptable results.

At the start of the course students are informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and about the grading scale and how it is applied in the course.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have completed 150 credits including a Bachelor's degree project in Political Science, Sociology, Social Anthropology, Education, Social Work, Sociology of Law, Gender Studies, Human Geography, Development Studies, Media and Communication Studies or the equivalent.

A good command of English language both spoken and written, equivalent to English 6/B (advanced) proficiency in the Swedish secondary system, is required. Equivalence assessments will be made according to national guidelines.

Further information

The course cannot be included in a degree together with SIMM05 Fieldwork 7.5 credits or SIMM15 Fieldwork 7.5 credits.

Subcourses in SIMM25, Social Sciences: Fieldwork

Applies from V12

1101 Fieldwork, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A