



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Social Sciences

SIMM30, Social Sciences: Participatory Methods of Change and Development, 7.5 credits

*Social Sciences: Participatory Methods of Change and Development,
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 Sciences, at the second-cycle level, and as an optional course within the Master of Science Programmes in Development Studies, Global Studies, and the Social Studies of Gender.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

Social Anthropology

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

Sociology

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

Sociology of Law

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
Media and Communication Studies	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

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate understanding of the social scientific foundations of knowledge based on participatory approaches,
- critically understand the consequences of participatory approaches in development cooperation and in organisational transitions,
- demonstrate understanding of the fundamental principles of methods designed for participatory knowledge production in development cooperation and organisational change,
- demonstrate critical understanding of the possibilities and limitations of using participatory approaches in development cooperation and organisational development,

Competence and skills

- identify and assess the difference between conventional knowledge within the social sciences and knowledge based on participatory approaches,
- independently and with proficiency show ability to critically assess the goals of participatory approaches in development cooperation and organisational change,
- contribute to the implementation of participatory approaches in development cooperation and in organisational transitions,

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate critical evaluation of the difference between conventionally constructed scientific knowledge within the social sciences and knowledge constructed through participatory approaches,
- demonstrate insight into the ways in which participatory approaches can be used in order to accomplish change in development cooperation and in organisational transitions.

Course content

The course initially highlights how knowledge conventionally is constructed within the social sciences and how such knowledge may differ from knowledge constructed through action research and/or participatory approaches.

A critical issue is the extent to which conventional knowledge is associated with the prevailing power relations in society and how action research and participatory approaches of knowledge construction can alter these relations. Subsequently, the course focuses on two fields of activity where action research and participatory approaches are used in order to construct a democratic and self-motivated form of knowledge – development cooperation and organisational development. Studying these fields makes it possible to critically understand the assumed benefits of participatory approaches in situations where bottom-up knowledge is expected to make development and the work of organisations more effective.

In order to demonstrate the practical features of action research and participatory approaches the final part of the course is aimed for practical exercises. During this part, students will become acquainted with methods and techniques that are employed when participatory knowledge is constructed, and consequently, better equipped to evaluate such a process from an insider perspective.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, workshops, tutorials, and seminars. Participation in workshops and seminars is mandatory.

Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, compulsory participation is required in workshops and seminars. 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 is based on the following:

- two written memos related to the workshops and the course literature,
- an individually written project design paper related to the course content and 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 grade for a non-passing result is Fail. 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 grade of the individually written project design paper determines the overall grade on the course.

The written memos are exempt from the grading scale above. The grades awarded for this component 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.

For a grade of Pass on the entire course, the student must have been awarded at least E on assessments for which the grading scale A–E+Fail applies, and the grade of Pass on assessments for which the grading scale Pass – Fail applies. The student must also have participated in all compulsory components.

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 on 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.

Oral and written proficiency in English equivalent to English 6/B (advanced) from Swedish upper secondary school is a requirement. International qualifications will be assessed in accordance with national guidelines.

Further information

The course cannot be included in a degree together with SIMM10 Participatory Methods of Change and Development 7.5 credits or SIMM20 Participatory Methods of Change and Development 7.5 credits.

Subcourses in SIMM30, Social Sciences: Participatory Methods of Change and Development

Applies from V18

- 1801 Written memos, 0,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1802 Project design paper, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass

Applies from V12

- 1101 Participatory Methods of Change and Development, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A