



Faculty of Social Sciences

## **SIMM28, Social Sciences: Comparative Methods - Practice, Procedure and Problems, 7.5 credits**

*Social Sciences: Comparative Methods - Practice, Procedure and  
Problems, 7,5 högskolepoäng*  
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by the Programme Committee for GDG-SM on 2011-12-12 and was last revised on 2016-04-01 by Graduate School Board. The revised syllabus applies from 2016-04-25, spring semester 2016.

### **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.

*Language of instruction:* English

#### *Main field of studies*

Media and Communication Studies

Development Studies

Political Science

Gender Studies

Education

Social Anthropology

Sociology

Human Geography

#### *Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

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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

## Learning outcomes

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

- demonstrate his/her understanding of methods of comparative research
- identify the appropriate techniques for different kinds of research questions
- apply his/her understanding of the method of comparative research in relation to contemporary issues in the Social Sciences
- critically assess the utility and appropriateness of diverse methods and techniques for the study of relevant research issues in the Social Sciences
- communicate scientific issues and follow the development of knowledge within their field of study

## Course content

The aim of the course is to provide a comprehensive overview of comparative methods and their usefulness for research within the Social Sciences and to convey the necessary analytical and practical skills for the application of comparative methods. Through lectures, seminars, and workshops, the course will provide students with relevant knowledge of methods of comparative research, their respective uses and usefulness, and their relevance for the study of contemporary Social Science issues.

## Course design

The course will be given in the form of lectures, seminars and workshops. Lectures will focus upon general aspects of comparative methods, as well as the application of comparative methods within different Social Science disciplines. The workshops will focus upon the application of comparative methods to different research tasks.

## Assessment

Assessment will be based on the following:

- active participation in the course in its entirety
- practical and written workshop and seminar assignments
- written and oral presentation of a research assignment

Re-examination will be offered after the end of the course. If necessary, a second re-examination will be arranged at a later date.

*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 grades awarded are A, B, C, D, E or Fail. The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. 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.

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 eligible for the course the student must have 150 credits including a graded thesis for the degree of Bachelor, or a completed major, in the Social Sciences, or another equivalent subject.

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 was adopted by the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences on November 17, 2011, and the syllabus was approved by the Committee for International Programmes on December 12, 2011.

This syllabus is valid from the spring term of 2012.

The course cannot be included in a degree together with SIMM08 Comparative methods: Practice, Procedures, Problems 7.5 credits or SIMM18 Comparative methods: Practice Procedures, Problems 7.5 credits.

## Subcourses in SIMM28, Social Sciences: Comparative Methods - Practice, Procedure and Problems

Applies from V12

1101 Comparative Methods - Practice, Procedure and Problems, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A