



Faculty of Social Sciences

SIMM33, Social Sciences: Theory of Science for the Social Sciences, 7.5 credits

Samhällsvetenskap: Samhällsvetenskaplig vetenskapsteori, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Graduate School Board on 2015-11-13 to be valid from 2015-11-19, spring semester 2016.

General Information

This is a distance learning course, offered as an interdisciplinary single subject course in Social Science at the second-cycle level. The course is mandatory course within the Master of Science Programme in Sociology of Law, European Law (SELA), 120 credits.

Language of instruction: English

<i>Main field of studies</i>	<i>Depth of study relative to the degree requirements</i>
Sociology	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
Development Studies	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
Human Geography	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
Education	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

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

Demonstrate his/her understanding of various approaches in the Theory of Science, especially their relevance for the Social Sciences.

Competence and skills

Apply fundamental concepts in the Theory of Science to social scientific problems.

Command scientific communication and monitor knowledge development within the field of studies.

Judgement and approach

Critically assess the uses and usefulness of major approaches in the Theory of Science in relation to research and/or working life.

Course content

The aim of the course is to provide comprehensive understanding of contemporary Theory of Science, especially in relation to the Social Sciences. Hence the core of the course is presentations and critical discussions of major theories of Science and their relevance to Social Science. The main purpose is to offer students the theoretical frameworks and conceptual tools necessary for an overview, facilitating their analyses with regard to their own subject and its relation to other subjects.

Course design

The course will be given in the form of video lectures and a number of tasks, conducted individually as well as in groups. Lectures will present major perspectives in the Theory of Science, especially those related to the Social Sciences. The tasks will focus on the application of course content to issues related to the uses and usefulness of the Theory of Science in research and working life. Students are expected to have read and reflected upon relevant course literature prior to lectures, as well as be prepared to actively participate in group work.

Assessment

Students are assessed on the basis of the final written assignment. Detailed information on deadlines, nature and length of the written assignment, and potential make-up assignments (in case of missed workshops/deadlines) is provided both in the introductory lecture and as separate course documents at the beginning of the course

period.

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 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.

English 6/ English B (advanced) proficiency, or the equivalent.

Further information

The course cannot be included in a degree together with SIM401 Theory of Science for the Social Sciences 15 credits; SIMM01 Theory of Science for the Social Sciences 15 credits; SIMM03 Theory of Science for the Social Sciences 7.5 credits; SIMM13 Theory of Science for the Social Sciences 7.5 credits or SIMM23 Theory of Science for the Social Sciences 7.5 credits

Subcourses in SIMM33, Social Sciences: Theory of Science for the Social Sciences

Applies from V16

1501 Theory of Science for the Social Sciences, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A