



Faculty of Social Sciences

SMMV18, Theory of Social Sciences, 7.5 credits

Vetenskapsteori för samhällsvetenskaper, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by the board of the Department of Service Management and Service Studies on 2019-03-20 and was last revised on 2021-02-17. The revised syllabus applied from 2021-08-30, autumn semester 2021.

General Information

The course is a compulsory component in the first semester and included in the Master's (120 credits) programme in Service Management (SASMA). The course is given for all specialisations.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Service Management

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

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

Learning outcomes

For a grade of Pass on the course, the student shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- describe, explain and compare key theories in the philosophy of science, and
- identify and critically reflect on the role of science in society

Competence and skills

- demonstrate an understanding that there is a need for certain types of information to solve different tasks.
- describe social phenomena from different theoretical perspectives and reflect on the differences in understanding, interpretation and explanation that result from this

- discuss what constitutes scientific knowledge, and
- reflect on the connection between the philosophy of science, research design and choice of method

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate the ability to critically review the production and use of science in society

Course content

The aim of the course is to enable students to develop a specialised familiarity with the conditions, nature and role of science. The course introduces different approaches to science and problematising how science is produced and used. The themes addressed are: the philosophy of science and the role of science in society.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, seminars and workshops.

Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, compulsory participation is required in seminars and workshops. Students who have been unable to participate in compulsory components 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 due to elected office duties as a student representative.

Assessment

The assessment is based on

Individual written examination (5.5 credits)

Project work I (1 credit)

Project work II (1 credit)

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 completed in the past year (catch-up exam). At least two further re-examinations on the same course content are offered within a year of a major change to, or discontinuation 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 on the basis of the learning outcomes for 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 has shown unacceptable results.

Module codes 2102 and 2103 are exceptions to the grading scale above – the grading scale for these is Pass or Fail. The course grade A-E is determined by the grade on the individual written examination (module code 2101) and a requirement for a grade of Pass on both project work components (module codes 2102 and 2103).

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

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, the student must be admitted to the Master's (120 credits) programme in Service Management (SASMA).

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

Subcourses in SMMV18, Theory of Social Sciences

Applies from H22

- 2201 Individual oral exam, 5,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 2202 Project work I, 1,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 2203 Project work II, 1,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass

Applies from H21

- 2101 Individual written exam, 5,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 2102 Project work I, 1,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 2103 Project work II, 1,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass