



Faculty of Social Sciences

SOAA02, Social Work in Sweden, an Introduction, 7.5 credits

Socialt arbete i Sverige, en introduktion, 7,5 högskolepoäng

First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by the board of the School of Social Work on 2013-05-29 and was valid from 2014-01-20, spring semester 2014.

General Information

The course is offered as a single subject course in Social Work at the first cycle level.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Social Work

Social Work

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

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Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- express basic knowledge of the living conditions and social problems in Sweden
- demonstrate a basic understanding of the historical background of social work, target groups and development conditions
- show a basic understanding of Swedish social work as a field of activity and how social work in Sweden is organized
- express a basic knowledge of social work, from a societal, organizational, professional and user perspective

Competence and skills

- perform a basic search for information and have basic knowledge about how to write and cite
- show communicative skills, oral and written, in seminars and papers
- apply skills to analyse social work in Sweden

Judgement and approach

- show an awareness of the importance of how ethical considerations, values and attitudes interact in different social work contexts
- apply a basic intersectional analysis of social problems.

Course content

The main aim of this introductory course is to provide basic knowledge of social work in Sweden. The goal is to enhance theoretical and practical knowledge of social work in Sweden, and highlight different types of actors and contexts where social work operates (public, private and/or voluntary sector). The course focuses on Swedish social work, but also embraces the students' prior knowledge and experiences of social work in different environments.

This course consists of two major parts: one theoretical and one oriented at practical social work in the current Swedish welfare state.

In the first part of the course the students map their conception of social work in Sweden. This is followed by a theoretical introduction to welfare and social work in Swedish society, from a historical perspective to the present situation including current changes. Legal aspects of the society in general and social work in particular are then highlighted.

In the second part of the course, the focus turns to practical social work. By inviting the students to field studies and discussions with professional social workers and service users who represent different organizations and authorities, the students are introduced to different perspectives of social work.

The course concludes with an individual written paper aiming at analysing social work in Sweden from different perspectives, interweaving the theoretical and practical knowledge achieved during the course.

Course design

The course presents a variety of pedagogical tools making the course student-centred, thus enhancing student participation in the creative process of learning. The course consists of a combination of lectures, workshops, seminars and field studies.

The lectures focus on theoretical and practical aspects of social work, its historical development and social work of today. The course concludes with an individual written paper presented and discussed at a seminar. Participation in seminars and workshops are mandatory.

Assessment

Examination will be based on active participation in seminars and workshops, individual and group oral presentations as well as course papers, including analysis and reflections of theory and practice of social work.

Re-examination is offered after the end of the course. If necessary, a second re-examination is 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.

Entry requirements

General entry requirements. Courses corresponding to the Swedish Upper Secondary School Programs: Mathematics A, Civics A and English B.

English B (advanced) language proficiency shall be demonstrated in one of the following ways:

- IELTS score of 6.5 (with no section less than 5.5)
- TOEFL paper-based score of 4.5 (scale 1-6) in written test and a total score of 575; internet based score of 20 (scale 0-30) and a total score of 90
- Cambridge/Oxford – Advanced Certificate of Proficiency
- A Bachelor's degree from a university where English is the only language of instruction, according to the International Handbook of Universities
- A pass on English course B (Swedish upper secondary school)

Subcourses in SOAA02, Social Work in Sweden, an Introduction

Applies from V14

1301 Social Work in Sweden, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A