



Faculty of Social Sciences

SOCB33, Sociology: The Sociology of Human Development, 15 credits

Sociologi: Global utvecklingssociologi, 15 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Sociology on 2024-11-21. The syllabus comes into effect 2025-01-06 and is valid from the autumn semester 2025.

General information

The course is given as a stand-alone course and as an elective within SGUTV, Bachelor of Science Programme in Development Studies, 180 credits.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of study *Specialisation*

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

Learning outcomes

For a pass grade on the course, the student is to be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate a basic understanding of both classical and contemporary sociological and social sciences perspectives with regard to global social change (1)
- demonstrate knowledge of the historical and contemporary social processes that have been in focus for classical and modern social sciences (2)
- describe scientific discussions on global development from sociological perspectives. (3)

- demonstrate an understanding of key global challenges to society that are results of increasing urbanisation and globalisation as well as of central social sciences perspectives and concepts that are used to analyse these processes (4)
- demonstrate basic knowledge of the theoretical basis of various social science theories (5)

Competence and skills

- apply sociological analysis to different complex social problems and power dynamics (6)
- concretely and precisely be able to present acquired knowledge in speech and writing in a professional manner (7)
- demonstrate the ability to take a critical position on literature and independently seek and evaluate scholarly texts (8)
- master basic reference management (9)

Judgement and approach

- adopt a scholarly perspective to critically evaluate different local and global social situations (10)
- demonstrate an understanding of different groups' values, preferences and perspectives, and how they can be assessed in relation to each other (11)

Course content

The course provides a sociological perspective on economic, social and political processes, focusing especially on global social change and sustainable development. The aim is to enable students to acquire the knowledge required to understand and critically examine the discussions pursued about the global social change that marks modernity, focusing especially on the post-war period.

Module 1. Classical and Modern Social Analysis

The module addresses classical and modern sociological theory, as well as the economic, social and political transformations in focus of classical sociology. Emphasis is placed on the processes leading up to the social transformations that are usually covered by the concept of modernity, such as the emergence of sovereign nation states, capitalism, bureaucracies, rationalisation and increasing division/differentiation of labour in and between countries. Furthermore, the module deals with the different theory of science positions originally developed in classical sociology but still marking the social sciences.

Module 2. Contemporary Sociological Perspectives on Global Development

The module focuses on contemporary challenges to development in different parts of the world. The module adopts both macro and micro perspectives. The focus is on how different societies are structured and how they change. This is in terms of institutions, structures and social networks and the complex interaction between these factors. Sociological theories and concepts are used to highlight how inequality is created and maintained. Finally, different social policy interventions are evaluated using the theories discussed in the course.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, exercises, group assignments and seminars. Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, participation in seminars and group work is compulsory. The opportunity to compensate for or resit compulsory components will be offered to students who have been unable to participate due to circumstances beyond their control such as accidents, sudden illness or similar. This also applies to students who have been absent because of elected office duties, e.g. as a student representative.

Assessment

Module 1. Classical and modern social analysis, (7.5 credits) is examined through an individual examination (course objectives: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11)

Module 2. Contemporary sociological perspectives on global development, (7.5 credits) to be assessed through an individual examination (course objectives: 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11)

The course offers a first examination, a resit close to the first examination and a second resit for courses that have ended during that academic year (catch-up exam). At least two further resits on the same course content are offered within a year of the course being discontinued or undergoing a major change. 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.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: U=Fail, E=Sufficient, D=Satisfactory, C=Good, B=Very Good, A=Excellent

The student's results are assessed based on the learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of E the student must show sufficient 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 A the student has shown excellent results.

Full course grades are calculated as follows:

1. The letters of the assessed components are converted into numbers as follows: A = 5, B = 4, C = 3, D = 2, and E = 1.
2. The numerical grade is multiplied by the number of credits in the examination.
3. The products from the tests are added together.
4. The sum is divided by the total number of credits on the course.

Grades are given according to the following table.

$\geq 4.5 = A$

≥ 3.5 and $=B$

≥ 2.5 and $=C$

≥ 1.5 and $=D$

$< 1.5 = E$

To pass the course, students must have been awarded at least the grade of E on all assessed components. At the start of the course, the student is informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and the grading scale and how this is applied during the course.

Entry requirements

General requirements and studies equivalent of courses Social Studies 1b or 1a1+1a2 from Swedish Upper Secondary School.

Further information

The course replaces SOCB26 Sociology: Sociology of global development.