



Faculty of Social Sciences

SOCN19, Sociology: Internship, 30 credits

Sociologi: Praktik, 30 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Sociology on 2015-04-01 to be valid from 2015-04-01, autumn semester 2015.

General Information

The course is an elective component of the Master of Science programme in Sociology, 120 credits.

Language of instruction: Swedish and English

Main field of studies

Sociology

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

To pass the examination students must

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate specialised knowledge of how sociological expertise can be used to understand the role of the intern in the organisation and how the role was created
- demonstrate specialised knowledge of how sociological expertise can be used to understand the basic structure of the organisational/divisional unit close to the intern
- demonstrate specialised knowledge of the organisation's place in and relations to the broader adjacent environment or field

Competence and skills

- demonstrate a specialised ability to analyse, discuss and apply sociologically informed knowledge and understanding of organisational improvements, such as improvement of parts of the organisation's structure, internal and external relations, work procedures and processes, analytical abilities etc
- demonstrate the ability to independently formulate a plan to acquire and apply theoretical and empirical sociological knowledge based on the student's assignments
- demonstrate a specialised ability to analyse and discuss how traits (e.g. gender, ethnicity, education, work experience, age etc) are turned into categories that have effects on the resource allocation within the organisation
- demonstrate the ability in speech and writing to present and argue for the relevance of sociology in practical organisational and professional activities
- demonstrate the ability in speech and writing to present and argue for the individual student's portfolio of sociological and academic skills to an audience of potential employers

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate an understanding of how different types of knowledge, including sociological and social sciences expertise, are assessed and applied in an organisation
- demonstrate an understanding of both the potential contributions of sociology to an organisation and sociology's limitations
- demonstrate the ability to communicate an understanding of how sociology and the teaching of sociology can be made more relevant in working life
- demonstrate the ability to reflect in a scholarly manner on how ethical dilemmas arise and are managed in the organisation
- be able to critically discuss both subjective and objective dimensions of the rationale of the tasks and working methods encountered in professional life and their organisational and societal effects

Course content

The aim of the course is to provide students with specialised understanding of how sociological knowledge and skills can be applied in organisational contexts and in working life. The course worth 30 credits provides students who want to engage in an extensive work placement to perform a specialised and more comprehensive internship. Students are to develop a sociological viewpoint enabling them to understand and see the potential of applying sociological knowledge and skills to duties and assignments within the organisation at the same time as they use sociological knowledge and skills to understand and affect the organisation's way of

organising itself and its relations with the surrounding world. With regard to the last point, the student is to account for a sociological understanding of: a) the role of the internship and its content (duties), b) the organisation's (or division's in large organisations) way of organising itself in terms of formal and informal relations, power and resource allocation, and on what they are based, and c) where the organisation is considered to be located in a broader environment or field and why this or these interpretations are made.

It is to a high degree up to the student to find suitable assignments, in consultation with a supervisor at the host organisation and course teaching staff at the Department of Sociology at Lund University. The right to supervision is limited to the semester in which the internship takes place.

The host organisation can belong to the public, private or so called voluntary sector, in Sweden or abroad. It is to be able to provide the student intern with qualified duties or assignments corresponding to what the sector would expect from a university/Master's level graduate.

Course design

The host organisation must be able to provide qualified duties amounting to neither fewer than 30 hours nor more than 35 hours per week on average for a total of 15 weeks. At the beginning of the course, a written agreement must be in place between the host organisation, the student and the course director that is in accordance with what is specified above (qualified tasks and the minimum and maximum number of hours).

The teaching on the course consists of introductory lectures, a midway seminar and a final seminar, and individual or group supervision. Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, compulsory participation is required in seminars. Students who have been unable to participate 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 because of duties as an elected student representative.

The major part of the course is to consist of qualified assignments at a host organisation.

Assessment

The assessment is based on the following assignments:

An internship plan specifying the general duties of the student during the internship. (1 credit)

A list of the academic literature (theoretically, methodologically or empirically oriented) that the student initially wants to specialise in (the list can be modified and complemented later depending on the development of the internship activities) is to be submitted no later than the third course week (1 credit)

Seminar material for the midway seminar including both a description of internship activities completed so far and analytical observations (to be submitted no later than a week prior to the midway seminar) (1 credit)

A certified log of activities from the the completed internship (17 credits)

A theoretical/literature-based analysis of the internship activity and organisational circumstances that fulfil the learning objectives specified above. Define the sociological issue/s that are valid for specialised investigation and identify supporting scholarly texts (10 credits)

The analysis report is to be discussed at a final seminar.

Students who fail a placement course are to be given an opportunity for a retake, unless there are special reasons to the contrary. The student must then redo the placement in its entirety, and they themselves are responsible for finding a new placement.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass.

Pass and Fail

For the grade of Pass, the student must fulfil the learning outcomes specified for the course.

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 admitted to the course, students must have 30 second cycle credits in sociology or the equivalent.

Further information

It is the student's responsibility to find a placement and to finance any accommodation and travelling costs etc.

The course cannot be included in a degree together with SOCN18, Sociology: Internship, 15 credits.

Subcourses in SOCN19, Sociology: Internship

Applies from H15

- 1501 Internship plan, 1,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1502 Literature overview, 1,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1503 Seminar text, 1,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1504 Activity journal, 17,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1505 Internship - Analysis Report, 10,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass