



Faculty of Medicine

VMFN38, Health Systems in a Global Perspective: Methods and Applications, 7.5 credits

Hälsosystem i ett globalt perspektiv: metoder och tillämpningar, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Master's Programmes Board on 2021-10-12 and was last revised on 2023-12-05. The revised syllabus comes into effect 2023-12-05 and is valid from the autumn semester 2024.

General information

The course is given as a freestanding course and is intended for students with an interest in health systems from a global perspective, regardless of their previous educational background. The course complies with the guidelines of the Higher Education Ordinance (SFS 1993:100 with later amendments).

Language of instruction: English

Main field of study Specialisation

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

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

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

- describe different types of health system from a global perspective
- give an account of differences in preconditions, structure and performance between countries' health system
- explain the reasons for differences between countries' healthcare systems

Competence and skills

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

- apply models and frameworks to describe, analyse and compare health systems across countries
- identify, compile and analyse relevant data that describes different types of healthcare systems
- give examples of appropriate methods to evaluate the effects of healthcare reforms
- suggest appropriate alternatives to healthcare reforms adapted to the contexts of different countries
- identify and discuss potential conflicts between efficiency and equity in resource allocation for health systems in different groups of countries

Judgement and approach

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

- constructively reflect on different actors' roles in healthcare from a global perspective
- evaluate ethical perspectives in analyses and policy discussions within the field
- reflect on opportunities and challenges in global health with a focus on healthcare systems

Course content

The course is divided into five modules (each module is worth 1.5 credits)

1. Introduction to health systems from a global perspective including basic health economics
2. Quantitative analysis of health systems from a global perspective
3. Health financing from a global perspective
4. Healthcare reforms from a global perspective
5. Analysis of health systems for universal health coverage

Course design

The course involves full-time studies and is given online via a digital learning platform. The teaching consists of lectures, group-based seminars and interactive group exercises (workshops). Attendance at the seminars is compulsory. At the group-based meeting sessions, the students will present assignments for discussion and feedback from teachers and fellow students.

Assessment

The course is examined through one assessed component:

- Course portfolio, 7.5 credits with the grading scale Fail/Pass. The course portfolio consists of oral presentations, active participation in seminars and written assignments.

Written assignments can replace examination if the student is absent from an examining component that requires compulsory attendance (seminars and oral presentations).

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: Fail, Pass

To pass the course, the student must obtain a Pass grade on all assessed exams/components.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have a Bachelor's degree or equivalent. English B from Swedish upper secondary school or equivalent.

Further information

The course can also be given as a third-cycle course with certain additions to ensure that the course meets third cycle requirements.