



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

SW2170 Social Work and Welfare Systems, 15 credits

Social Work and Welfare Systems, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Faculty of Social Sciences on 2007-12-17 and was last revised on 2023-10-03 by Department of Social Work to be valid from 2024-01-15, spring semester of 2024.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Department of Social Work

Position in the educational system

The course, Social Work and Welfare Systems, 15 higher education credits, is a programme course is given within the Master's Programme in Social Work and Human Rights within the Faculty of Social Sciences. The course is a core course.

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Master's Programme in Social Work and Human Rights (S2SWH)

Main field of studies

Social Work

Specialization

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

Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course, Social Work and Welfare Systems, 15 higher education credits, a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work, or a Bachelor's Degree in related topics, and proficiency in English is also required.

Learning outcomes

After completion of the course the student is expected to:

Knowledge and understanding

- have achieved knowledge and insight of theoretical concepts and measurements concerning different welfare systems
- have achieved theoretical knowledge and understanding of the typologies of welfare regimes
- have achieved advanced knowledge and understanding of contemporary theoretical perspectives about social problems
- have achieved knowledge and understanding about theories and perspectives in social work

Competence and skills

- be able to independently analyze, discuss, and critique welfare systems from different perspectives, such as class, gender, and ethnicity
- be able to independently, critically, and systematically analyze social problems in relation to international social development
- be able to critically analyze social work in international settings

Judgement and approach

- The students are expected to develop their own interdisciplinary values, perspectives, and analytical competence in the intersection of welfare systems and social work.

Course content

The course deals with the following topics:

- Theoretical concepts and measurements in the field of the welfare systems.
- Typologies of welfare regimes.
- Welfare systems from different perspectives.
- Theories of social problems.
- Theories of contemporary social work.
- Approaches to social work practice.
- Social problems and social work practice in international settings.

Form of teaching

The course consists of sessions in the form of lectures, seminars, and a field study. In terms of activities, the students carry out independent learning, group work, oral presentations, and written submissions; all of which are to be conducted through a problem- and solution-oriented approach.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The intended course learning outcomes are examined on the basis of five seminars and one final examination assignment. The seminars require compulsory attendance and active participation.

In the event of absence or insufficient participation, a replacement assignment must be submitted. In the event of absence from or insufficient participation in more than two compulsory sessions, a replacement assignment is not sufficient. In this case, the student has to participate in the equivalent session at a future course occasion.

The seminars are graded Pass (G) or Fail (U).

The final examination assignment is assessed with the grade Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U). If the assignment receives the grade Fail (U), but is judged to be close to the limit for the grade Pass (G), supplementation must be allowed.

If the student who has failed twice on the same examination element wishes to change examiner for the next examination session, such request should be submitted in writing to the department and must be approved unless there are special reasons on the contrary (HF Chapter 6, 22§).

If the student has received a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg for special pedagogical support, the examiner may, in case it is compatible with the intended course learning outcomes and provided that unreasonable resources are not required, decide to give the student an adapted examination or alternative form of examination.

In the event that a course has been discontinued or undergone major changes, the student must be guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the regular examination session) for a period of at least one year, however, no longer than two years after the course has ended/changed. With regard to internships and work-based education, the corresponding applies, but with a limitation to only one additional examination session.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

For the grade Pass (G), it is required that the intended course learning outcomes have been achieved and that the student has actively participated in all compulsory elements. For Pass with Distinction (VG) it is also required that the grade Pass with Distinction has been obtained for the final examination assignment.

Course evaluation

The course is evaluated in a separate evaluation protocol at the end of the course. The

results of the evaluation will be communicated to the students and will function as a guide for the development of the course.