



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND WORK SCIENCE

SC2205 Social Change, 15 credits

Social förändring, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Faculty of Social Sciences on 2008-01-24 and was last revised on 2017-11-24 by Department of Sociology and Work Science to be valid from 2018-09-03, autumn semester of 2018.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Department of Sociology and Work Science

Position in the educational system

The course is an advanced course at second cycle level in sociology.

The course can be part of the following programmes: 1) Programme for Master in Sociology (S2SOC) and 2) Master's Programme in Strategic Human Resource Management and Labour Relations (S2HRM)

Main field of studies

Sociology

Specialization

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

Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course, the student must have completed with a passing grade second-cycle courses in Sociology corresponding to at least 30 higher education credits, of which 15 must be from core course/s and 15 from methods course/s or equivalent knowledge. Students registered before 1 July 2007 must have completed a Master's degree (one year) in Sociology. English 6/English B or the equivalent level of an internationally recognized test, for example TOEFL, IELTS

Learning outcomes

The overall objective of the course is for the students to acquire knowledge about, understand, problematize and apply theories of social change; social movements in relation to social change and globalization as a process of social change.

Knowledge and understanding

- Describe and analyse general theories of social change
- Describe and analyse theories of social movements, protests and collective action
- Describe and analyse theories of globalisation as a form of social change

Skills and abilities

- Critically and creatively compare and apply concepts and theories developed for the analysis of social change processes, in particular with respect to the relationship between structure and agency.
- Critically and creatively compare and apply concepts and theories developed for the analysis of social movements and their role in relation to processes of social change.
- Critically and creatively compare and apply concepts and theories developed for the analysis of globalization processes and how they function as processes of change at different levels (globally, nationally, locally).
- Search, collect, critically assess, collate, analyse and present empirical material related to social movements based on well-defined research questions.

Judgement and approach

- Present and reflect on own conclusions and the knowledge and arguments upon which they are based.
- Identify own need for further knowledge.

Course content

The course provides in-depth knowledge about sociological theories and concepts relating to social change and about key aspects of actual processes of social change in modern societies. In contrast to the presentation of such issues at the undergraduate level, the course cultivates a developed ability to problematize and apply the key theoretical perspectives structure/agency and micro/meso/macro. The course is divided into two modules:

Theories of Social change and globalisation (social change and globalization), 7.5 credits

This course module deals with general theories of social change in modern society with a particular emphasis on theories and analyses of globalization as a process of change at both agency and structural as well as micro, meso and micro level.

Social movements and social change (Independent Project), 7.5 credits

This course module deals with the role of social movements in social change. Following a theoretical and methodological introduction, the students undertake project work where they empirically investigate and analyse a social movement in relation to its globalized context. The results are presented both in writing and orally. The project work implies an opportunity for the students to elaborate upon and apply the theoretical perspectives presented in the course.

Form of teaching

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The first course module is examined through two written assignments concerning theories of social change, social movements and globalization. The second course module is examined through a written assignment comprising a project report. An oral presentation of the project work is also required for a pass grade.

Three meetings during the second course module (two during the course of the project and one to report the results) are necessary and therefore required for successful completion of the project work.

A student who has failed a test twice has the right to change examiner, unless weighty argument can be adduced. The application shall be sent to the board of the department and has to be in writing.

Grades

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

For Pass with distinction on the whole course, Pass with distinction on both the modules is required. For Pass on the whole course, Pass on both the modules is required.

Course evaluation

The course coordinator is to ensure that the students are given an opportunity to anonymously complete a course evaluation either during or at the end of the course. As far as possible, the students should also be given an opportunity to provide an oral course evaluation. A summary of the evaluation results, as well as proposed changes, must be made available to the students and subsequently addressed in connection with the subsequent course introduction.

Additional information

If the course is changed with regard to contents and/or literature, examination according to this course syllabus takes place in a year after the change. After that, each case will be judged individually to determine if the examination can be made according the old course syllabus.

If the course is canceled, it may still be examined within two years after the course was offered. After that, it should be examined in each individual case if an examination may be made.