



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

SQ4248 Criminology, 10 credits

Kriminalitet, 10 högskolepoäng

First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Social Work on 2012-10-05 and was last revised on 2023-05-30 to be valid from 2023-11-24, autumn semester of 2023.

Field of education: Social Sciences 60% and Nursing Science 40%

Department: Department of Social Work

Position in the educational system

This course is a deepening of first cycle course included in the Bachelor of Science in Social Work 210 credits. The course can also be offered as a freestanding course.

The course is included in the Supplementary social work education for persons with a foreign degree of 90 credits.

The course can be part of the following programmes: 1) Bachelor of Science in Social Work (S1SOP), 2) Programme for Professional Degree in Social Work (S1SOC) and 3) Supplementary social work education for persons with a foreign degree (S1KSO)

Main field of studies

Social Work

Specialization

G2F, First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course, the student is required to have passed the following courses: SQ4111 Social work, 30 credits, SQ4122 Law and social work, 15 credits and SQ4131 theories, methods and ethics of social work, 15 credits according to the programme syllabus of the social work degree at the University of Gothenburg, or have equivalent knowledge through passed studies of at least 60 credits in adjacent fields along with relevant professional or vocational experience.

To enroll on the course, the student needs to have completed and passed the course

KSO001 Social work and welfare politics for supplementary social worker program (10 credits), according to programme syllabus of the supplementary social worker program for individuals with foreign qualification.

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student is expected to be able:

Knowledge and understanding

- describe and problematize criminological theories and central concepts that explain crime, crime exposure and violence in close relationships, at the individual and societal level
- account for theories of crime prevention measures and methods relevant to social work
- explain the path into and out of crime taking into account class, ethnicity, gender and generation, with relevance to social work
- account for child rights perspectives in connection with crime and criminal proceedings
- account for current criminological research with relevance to social work

Competence and skills

- Problematiser criminological knowledge in relation to social problems and social work
- Apply criminological perspectives in analyses of offenders and victims as connected to social work
- Analyse living conditions of offenders and victims on individual, group and structural levels, from psychosocial, social political and socio-economic perspectives
- Identify crime prevention measures on individual and societal levels and explain its relevance for social work

Judgement and approach

- reflect on societal norms, values and criminal policy approaches to offenders and victims of crime based on professional approach and self-knowledge
- consider and evaluate current research that relates to offenders and victims with relevance for social work
- problematise and take a stand on ethical implications of crime prevention measures and criminal justice processes in relation to social work

Course content

The course is one of three elective options in the profiling area social exclusion and control and applies a constructivist standpoint. The aim of the course is that students

should acquire criminological knowledge about criminality as a social phenomenon, about people who commit crime, as well as about crime policy and proposals that can be related to social conditions, with relevance for social work and professional social workers.

The following themes are dealt with on the course:

- criminological theories, current research and contemporary perspectives on crime policy
- victimological perspectives on victimisation
- views on social control, normality and exclusion
- the criminal justice system, societal and social crime prevention measures

Form of teaching

The teaching consists of lectures by Department lecturers, guest lectures from practitioners, external researchers and voluntary organisations, film viewings, student-led seminars and presentations, study visits and literature studies. Some elements of the course are co-taught with two other profile courses (Drug abuse and dependency and Poverty, Income and Housing). The teaching style places emphasis on the joint contribution of students and teachers to the collective learning process, along with individual students'

The student is given the possibility to participate in at least two re-examination opportunities within one year from the start of course. After this, re-examination is offered in line with ordinary exam times.

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.

In cases where a course has been discontinued or undergone major changes, the student should be guaranteed access to at least three examination opportunities based on the previous course design (this includes the regular examination occasion) during a period of at least one year.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Assessment

Examination formats:

- Individual take-home exam
- 6 seminars
- Film analysis presented in groups

The course is assessed through oral presentations and written assignments. Examination takes place in groups as well as individually. All elements of the course require attendance and active student participation, showing that one can present individual arguments and approaches and in that way effectively contribute to a discussion. In case of absence from a maximum of 3 seminars, it is possible to do a reassignment assignment. In case of absence from more than 3 seminars, re-admission is not sufficient, but the module may be repeated at the next course occasion. For the debate seminar, where written readmission is not allowed, the student is offered a scheduled opportunity to make up for this part.

A student, who without passed result has gone through two tests for a course or a part of a course, has the right to have another examiner appointed, unless special causes speak against it (HF 6 chapters section 22). Such a request should be submitted in writing to the responsible department. At least five examination occasions should be offered to the students to pass a course or part of a course.

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

In case a course has been discontinued or undergone major changes, should the student be guaranteed access to at least three examination sessions (including regular examination session) during a period of at least one year, based on the earlier set-up of the course. This may not fight against HF 6 chapters section 21.

Grades

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

In order to pass the course (Pass), the learning outcomes need to have been met and the student must have participated in all compulsory elements. To pass with distinction (Pass with distinction) the student furthermore needs to have proven excellent language skills, exceptional ability to discuss and analyse in writing, as well as independent aptitude in the application of theoretical perspectives in the individual written essay.

Course evaluation

Course evaluation takes place continuously during the course in dialogue with the students, orally at the course final seminar session and through a special course

evaluation protocol at the end of the course.