



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

SQ5172 Psychosocial Work, 25 credits

Psykosocialt arbete, 25 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Social Work on 2013-11-25 and was last revised on 2022-04-26 to be valid from 2022-09-21, autumn semester of 2022.

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

Department: Department of Social Work

Position in the educational system

The course is a core course at second cycle level and is included in the Bachelor of Science in Social Work 210 credits and in a Degree of Master in social work. 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 Master of Social Science with a Major in Social Work (S2SOA), 3) Programme for Professional Degree in Social Work (S1SOC) and 4) Supplementary social work education for persons with a foreign degree (S1KSO)

Main field of studies

Social Work

Specialization

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

Entry requirements

For admission to course is required that the student completed semester 1 - 5 and 7.5 credits from semester 6, according to programme syllabus of the social work program at University of Gothenburg, with approved result or Degree of Bachelor of Science in Social Work extensive 210 credits, or Degree of Bachelor in social work extensive 180 credits or Degree of Bachelor in other closely related field.

To be eligible for the course, it is required that the student admitted to the supplementary social work program for individuals with foreign qualification has gone through semester 1 and the courses SQ4361 theory of knowledge and scientific method II, 7.5 credits and KSO003 Placement for supplementary social work program 2.5 credits, or a profile course SQ4241-9, 10 credits, with approved result.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- give an account of current research and explain central theories in psychosocial work and deepen and problematise these using social sciences perspectives on power and ethics on group, organisation, and community level
- problematise interprofessional cooperation and cooperation between public authorities and Non-Governmental Organizations
- give an account of theories and methods for evaluation at a general level in and of psychosocial work

Competence and skills

- review critically and independently apply different psychosocial action strategies for how to act in collaboration with clients identify and analyse problems, develop resources for support and change promoting better self-esteem and living conditions on individual, group, family, and social network levels
- identify important collaboration partners and give examples of forms for cooperation with these
- apply theories and methods for management in and of psychosocial work

Judgement and approach

- evaluate and assess consequences of different interventions and identify and critically relate to knowledges and ethical bases critically these rests on with special consideration of an intersectional perspective and clients/users and target groups' participation.
- reflect on and critically review ethical dilemmas, conflicts and power relation in the psychosocial work
- analyse and review critically how the organisation, the profession and own norms, values and attitudes influence the meeting and the relationship with the target group and cooperation with other professional groups
- identify and evaluate his knowledge and skills and clarify future knowledge need in social work.

Course content

The theories of the psychosocial work is based on interactional approaches and methods with aim to strengthen the self-esteem of people and living conditions. This includes both preventive and treating efforts and turns to individuals, families, groups and social networks.

The course joins and develops previously acquired knowledge and skills. This implies increased ability to reflection and analysis and advanced knowledge and preparations for professional social work. The course takes its starting point in both research in the knowledge field of and the placement of the social work in a historical, Swedish and international perspective. In the course is included also that the student should identify and reflect on his acquired knowledge related to knowledge formation, theories and methods in psychosocial work and be able to identify his and the field - needs of additional knowledge.

The following themes are treated:

- Central theorisings in psychosocial work where the importance of relationship, analysis and action reflects a prominent role are deepened. Social sciences perspectives on power relations as an important part of the preconditions of the psychosocial work, but also the power that exists between professional and client/patient/users be focused.
- Different contexts, such as public authorities and Non - Governmental Organizations and the role of the socialworker in collaboration between these be studied as well as management in and of psychosocial work.
- The student is trained in to problematise, analyse and evaluate critically both his own action and the frames that control psychosocial work. In this lies also to relate critically to and reflect on theories, methods and the conditions of the client position. Strong emphasis is placed on the own professional conduct and its power processes, attitudes and values in order to deepen the student's ability to ethically based positions in professional contexts.

Form of teaching

The teaching consists above all of lectures, seminars, literature studies, group assignments and exercises (see during forms of assessment).

An active participation in the smaller working group's preparations and written and oral presentations and comments of the works of other students and working groups at the seminars is compulsory.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Assessment

The course is examined through:

- three written assignments, two of which are also presented orally at compulsory seminars
- active participation in nine mandatory seminars/workshops with related documentation
- active participation in four conversation exercises
- Three student-led seminars

In case of absence from a maximum of four seminars/talk exercises/workshops (of which a maximum of one talk exercise and a student-led seminar) there is the opportunity to do a clogging assignment that is determined in consultation with the responsible teacher. In the absence of more than four of these occasions, clogging is not sufficient, but the part may be redone at the next course occasion.

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 sessions based on the earlier planning of the course (including regular examination session) during a period of at least one year.

Grades

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

The first written assignment and the other and the third written individual written assignment is graded with Fail (U) or Pass (G).

The first written individual written assignment together with in addition connected seminar is graded with Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with distinction (VG).

For the grade Pass with distinction in the course is required, apart from Pass on all examinations, Pass with distinction on the first individual written assignment with in addition connected seminar.

In addition, a pass on the course requires attendance and active participation in the examining seminar.

Course evaluation

Course evaluation takes place continuously through dialogue with the students and through written evaluation at the end of the course. The result of the evaluation and any changes of the course content, literature and teaching and learning be presented at the next course introduction.