



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

SQ5173 Exercise of public authority in Social Work - Prerequisites and Consequences, 25 credits

Myndighetsutövning i socialt arbete - förutsättningar och konsekvenser, 25 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Social Work on 2013-12-10 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 the master's programme in social work. It can also be given 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) and 3) 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

Entry to the course requires that the student has gone through semester 1 - 5 and 7.5 credits from semester 6, according to program syllabus of the social work program at

University of Gothenburg, with approved result or have Degree of Bachelor of Science in Social Work of 210 credits, or Degree of Bachelor in social work of 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

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

Knowledge and understanding

- give an account of current research and explain the role of the law in the social work and analyse and problematise the concept of statutory social work
- relate statutory social work and its consequences to the social and organisational context it is
- analyse different forms of power associated with statutory social work
- give an overview of the importance of high standard work in relation to statutory social work

Competence and skills

- display integration of legal skills and professional attitudes in at interaction and cooperation with colleagues and users on individual, group, - organisation and community level
- distinguish needs of further legal competence and demonstrate the ability to search this knowledge
- apply theoretical knowledge of evaluation in social work
- display on how theories if management can be applied in exercise of authority in social work

Judgement and approach

- show advanced understanding of, critically evaluate and integrate legal and ethical perspectives in the exercise of authority in social work with with particular regard to
- show an advanced understanding of different ethical problems related statutory social work in social work and independently reflect on the importance of the own professional role

- identify and evaluate your knowledge and skills and clarify future knowledge need in social work.

Course content

The course gives a broad perspective about statutory social work, which is based administrative law and as well as a general understanding a more generally held understanding of the concept where the preconditions and consequences of statutory social work are included. For the social work central fields such as legal security, confidentiality, self-determination as well as questions that concern ethics, approaches and human rights are treated.

Following topics are covered:

- The legislation is problematised from perspectives such as morals and values, power structures and the social as well as organisational context in which the law is exercised.
- The student will be trained to analyse, critically evaluate and reflect on statutory social work. Particular emphasis will be put on the relationship between support and control in statutory social work concerning interventions involving ethics, professional approach and power and how statutory social work is affected by the fact that public activities are carried out by private actors.
- Possibilities and impediments for cooperation and opportunities and obstacles for cooperation as well as its importance for statutory activities its importance in regulatory intervention activities.
- The meaning of evaluation, evidence-based practice and quality work in social work will be discussed and problematized from the perspective of statutory social work and quality assurance procedures in social work is discussed and problematised from a regulatory intervention perspective. The student will be given space to identify acquired knowledge related to statutory social work and the need of further knowledge in social work.

Form of teaching

The course's working methods consist of teaching: lectures, seminars, supervision, study visits, group work and own work.

Through lectures, teachers convey basic knowledge in a current subject area, but they are also dialogue-based and should stimulate critical thinking. The seminars are conducted in different ways, but the common denominator is that they are teacher-led and aim to provide an in-depth understanding of current literature as well as as a forum for discussion on, among other things, application in practical social work.

Special court case seminars are organized. Group work takes place in pairs of constellations as well as oral presentations to the group.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Assessment

The course is examined through four individual written works. In addition, the course requires attendance and active participation in all 12 examining exercises and seminars in the course. In case of absence or non-active participation, clogging task. In the absence of more than three of these exercises and seminars, clogging is not sufficient, but the part may be redone at the next course occasion.

Students have the right to change examiner, after having failed twice in the same examination. The application shall be sent to the board of the department and has to be in writing.

In case the course has ceased or undergone major changes the student should be guaranteed access to at least three examination sessions (including the regular examination session) during a time of at least a year with following the previous out-line of the course

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U). On the course, one of the grades Pass well (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U) is given. Examinations through seminar participation and related documentation use the grading scale Fail (U) and Pass (G). The same with the final written work. The other three written works are assessed with Fail (U), Approved (G) or Passable (VG). For G on the course as a whole, a minimum of G is required on all examining parts. For VG on the course as a whole, VG is required on at least two of the three written works where VG is possible.

Course evaluation

Course evaluation takes place continuously 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 should be presented at the next course introduction.

