



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

SW2278 Children in Adverse Life Situations: Social Work with Children at Risk and Their Families, 15 credits

Barn i utsatta livssituationer: Socialt arbete med barn som far illa och deras familjer, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Social Work on 2021-11-18 to be valid from 2022-08-29, autumn semester of 2022.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Department of Social Work

Position in the educational system

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Erasmus Mundus Master's Programme in Social Work with specialization in Families and Children (S2SAF)

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, Children in Adverse Life Situations; Social Work with Children at Risk and Their Families, 15 higher education credits, a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work, or in related topics and proficiency in English are required. Students at the Second Cycle International Post-graduate Programme on Family-related Social Work and Policies in Europe are guaranteed to be admitted to the course.

Learning outcomes

After completion of the course the student is expected to

Knowledge and understanding

- have achieved a deeper knowledge and understanding of social work with children in adverse life situations and their families
- have achieved deeper knowledge and understanding about of different theories and methods within the area of social work with children at risk and their families

Competence and skills

- be able to critically reflect on as well as apply different theoretical perspectives, including novel sustainability perspectives, relevant to social work with children at risk and their families
- be able to assess and critically reflect on research concerning social work with children at risk and their families
- be able to account for, analyse and apply knowledge of children's position in the family and in the society, as well as children's participating processes in decisions concerning their life situations
- be able to account for, analyse and apply knowledge of children exposed to neglect, physical and sexual abuse and sexual exploitation
- be able to account for, analyse and apply, as well as critically reflect upon, knowledge of specific methods and techniques developed within the area of social work with children and families
- be able to account for and critically reflect upon the position of the social worker as well as the collaboration with other professionals working with children in adverse life situations and their families

Judgement and approach

- develop further their own values and attitudes in relation to the area of social work.
- develop further knowledge about children's rights issues in relation to professional social work.

Course content

The course deals with the following topics:

- Theories and methods in social work with children in adverse life situations and their families.
- Contemporary research related to children at risk and their families.
- The life situations of children at risk in relation to issues of power, socio-economical conditions, physical and mental health, gender and ethnicity.
- Children's position in society and in the family
- The role of the social worker in child protection matters.
- Children's rights issues.

Form of teaching

Various forms of teaching and learning activities are carried out in this course and include: workshops, seminars, group assignments, lectures and field based studies. Teaching occurs both in the classroom, outside the premises of the university and in internet-based form.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

This course is examined through two written assignments and one oral presentation at an examination seminar. The first written assignment is a group report based on field based studies. This report is then presented at the examination seminar. The second written assignment is an individual take-home examination.

In addition, there is obligatory participation in eight seminars and in field based studies. Failure to attend a seminar will require that the student complete a supplementary assignment. Absence from field studies will also require a supplementary assignment.

A student who has failed an exam twice has the right to change examiners, if it is possible. A written application should be sent to the Department of Social Work, University of Gothenburg.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Excellent (A), Very good (B), Good (C), Satisfactory (D), Sufficient (E) and Fail (F).

To receive a passing grade in this course (E), students must have attended successfully attended all seminars and field studies (graded as Pass/Fail) and received a grade of at least E on both written assignments.

Course evaluation

The course director coordinator guarantees that the evaluation is considered regularly and systematically at the end of the course.

Additional information

The course includes lectures, independent and teacher supported group work and seminars. The course will be carried out as an intensive course. During the first week of the course, students will be able to follow the course from their home countries. During the second and third weeks, there will be a high degree of teacher- supported education. This syllabus is a translation.