

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Knowledge production in social work – Nordic and European perspectives

Kunskapsbildning i socialt arbete i ett Nordiskt och Europeiskt sammanhang

Credit points: 4, 7.5 or 15 ECTS credits

Course code: none

Responsible Department: Department of Social Work, Umeå University

Subject: Social Work

Level: PhD studies

Grading scale: Fail-Pass

Field of education: Social Sciences

The course is given within the framework of the Swedish Postgraduate School in Social Work in collaboration with the Nordic-Baltic Doctoral Network in Social Work

1. Confirmation

The course syllabus is established by the Department of Social Work at Umeå university on 2009-04-22. The course syllabus is valid from 2009-05-01.

2. Content

From a starting point in different social science traditions, the summer school will highlight dichotomies in relation to knowledge in social work and social work research. Dichotomies that will be addressed is knowledge-practice, theoretical-practical knowledge, social policy-social work practice, These dichotomies will be investigated by applying a dichotomy that is fundamental to all social sciences, namely that of conflict-consensus.

The course approaches the variety and complexity of the issues by discussing them in a European comparative perspective.

3. Expected learning outcomes

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

- Have knowledge of current developments in social work research in a number of European countries
- Be able to discuss and analytically apply fundamental dichotomies in social work research
- Be able to discuss and analytically apply the dichotomy conflict-consensus
- Be able to critically discuss the relation between knowledge and practice in social work
- Be able to critically discuss the relation between theoretical and practical knowledge in social work
- Be able to critically discuss the relation between social policy and social work practice

4. Admission procedures

Applicants are required to be registered at a social science PhD program. The board of the Swedish Postgraduate School in Social Work will decide which applicants will be accepted. Priority will be given to students at university departments affiliated with either the Swedish Postgraduate School in Social Work or the Nordic-Baltic Doctoral Network in Social Work.

5. Focus of instruction

The core of the course is centred around an intensive week of lectures and seminars. As a supplement, some activities will be organized on-line. All teaching will be in English.

6. Examination modes

Participants who would like to be credited 4 ECTS are obliged to write an assignment that is to be presented during the summer school, and also actively take part in the lessons. Other participants are required to present and submit a written examination paper, as well as be discussant on a paper at the final seminar. For students who wish to do so, it is possible to write one paper for assessment in this course in conjunctions with the course *Socialvetenskaplig teori (Theories in social science)*, thus achieving 15 ECTS

7. Course literature

Course literature will be presented in a separate document.