

Narrative theory and analysis in social work, 7,5 cr (or 4 cr)

Narrativ teori och analys i socialt arbete, 7,5 hp (alt. 4 hp)

Learning Outcomes

Course participants should after completing the course within the areas:

Knowledge and understanding

- be able to describe, analyse and critically reflect on theoretical and methodological approaches within research on narratives and storytelling in social work that are verbally conveyed, in written form or rendered in the media.

Skills and ability

- be able to plan and implement, as well as present studies in social work using a narrative approach.

Judgement and approach

- be able to evaluate the relevance of narrative research methods for research in social work.
- be able to reflect over the ethical dilemma in the data collection, analysis and publication of narrative material.

Contents

- Theoretical and methodological approaches within research on narratives and storytelling in social work
- The research process in studies on narratives and storytelling in social work – from planning to publication of results
- Processing and analysis of storytelling of individuals and collective storytelling, as well as the meaning of narrations for identity, the construction of the other (e.g. client or user), counternarratives, co-narrations and metanarratives in different contexts
- Narrative analysis of texts such as case-files and written decisions, as well as other texts authored by individuals, groups, organisations or authorities such as diaries, pamphlets, policy documents.

Types of Instruction

The course is implemented in the form of lectures, seminars, workshops and analysis exercises, as well as individual work that is presented and discussed in a group. The course builds on three meetings of two or three days per meeting. During the third meeting the individual papers of the course participants are treated in a seminar.

Entry requirements

The requirements for admittance to the course are 240 cr of which 60 cr are at the master's level including 15 cr in a degree project.

Examination Format

4.1 Examination Format

The course is graded through an individual paper (turn in assignment) that is treated in a seminar and through active participation in the workshop with data analysis. The turn in assignment will be assessed with either the grade pass or fail.

4.2 Examiner

Graded by an associate professor or professor.

Reading list (prel)

Andrews, Molly, Squire, Corinne, & Tamboukou, Maria. (2008). *Doing Narrative Research*. London: Sage.

Cedersund, E. (1999). Using narratives in social work interaction. In. A. Jukinen, K. Juhila, T. Pösö (Eds.) *Constructing Social Work Practices*. (pp. 69-86) Aldershot: Ashgate.

Chamberlayne, P., Bornat, J. , Apitzsch, U.(eds.) (2004). *Biographical Methods and Professional Practice. An international perspective*. Bristol: Polity Press.

Fraser, Heather. (2004). Doing Narrative Research: Analysing Personal Stories Line by Line. *Qualitative Social Work*, 3(2), 179-201.

Hall, C. (1997). *Social work as Narrative. Storytelling and persuasions in professional texts*. Aldershot: Ashgate.

Hall, C., Slembrouck, S., Sarangi, S. (2006). *Language Practices in Social Work. Categorisation and accountability in child welfare*. London: Routledge.

Hydén, Lars-Christer, & Brockmeier, Jens (Eds.). (2009). *Health, Illness and Culture: Broken Narratives* (Vol. 2). London: Routledge.

Hydén, Lars-Christer, & Örvulv, Linda. (2009) Narrative and identity in Alzheimer's disease: a case study. *Journal of Ageing Studies*, 23(4), 205-214.

Labov, William, & Waletzky, J. (1997). Narrative Analysis: Oral Versions of Personal Experience. *Journal of Narrative and Life History*, 7(1-4), 3-38.

Larsson, Sam, & Sjöblom, Yvonne (2010) Perspectives on narrative methods in social work research, *International Journal of Social Welfare*, 19(3) 272–280.

McAdams, Dan P., Josselson, Ruthellen, & Lieblich, Amia, (eds.). (2006). *Identity and Story. Creating Self in Narrative*. Washington DC: American Psychological Association.

Mishler, Elliot G. (1995). Models of narrative analysis: A typology. *Journal of Narrative and Life History*, 5(2), 87-123.

Mishler, Elliot G. (1999). *Storylines: Craftartists' Narratives of Identity*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Nelson, Hilde, Lindemann. (2002). What Child Is This? *Hastings Center Report*, 32(6), 29-38.

Nikander, P. (2003) The absent client. Case Description and decision making in interprofessional meetings. In: C. Hall, K. Juhila, N. Parton, T. Pösö. *Constructing Clienthood in Social Work and Human Studies. Interaction, Identities and Practices*. London: Jessica Kingsley.

Pithouse, Andrew, & Atkinson, Paul. (1988). Telling the Case: Occupational Narrative in a Social Work Office. In Nicolas Coupland (Ed.), *Styles of Discourse* (pp. 183-200). London: Croom Helm.

Polkinhorn, Donald E. (1988). *Narrative Knowing and the Human Sciences*. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press.

Riessman, Catherine Kohler. (1990). Strategic Uses of Narrative in the Presentation of Self and Illness: A Research Note. *Social Science and Medicine*, 30(11), 1195-1200.

Riessman, C.K. (2003). Analysis of personal narratives, In J. Gubrium & J.Holstein (Eds.) *Handbook of Interview Research*. Newbury Park, CA: Sage.

Riessman, C. K., & Quinney, L. (2005). Narrative in Social Work: A Critical Review. *Qualitative Social Work*, 4(4), 391-412.

Urek, Mojca. (2005). Making a Case in Social Work. *Qualitative Social Work*, 4(4), 451-467.