

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Welfare states, social policy and health

Välfärdsstat, socialpolitik och hälsa

7.5 Higher Education

Credits

7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	PH011S
Valid from:	Autumn 2017
Date of approval:	2010-05-04
Changed:	2017-01-13
Department	Department of Public Health Sciences
Main field:	Public Health
Specialisation:	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

The syllabus was approved by the board for Centre for Health Equity Studies (CHESS), Stockholm University/Karolinska Institutet 2010-05-04 and was last revised 2015-06-01.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Bachelor's degree (180 ECTS credits) in Sociology, Psychology, Public Health sciences, Medicine or similar. English language skills equivalent to English course B or the following results from an international proficiency test: Cambridge CPE och CAE: Pass. IELTS : 6.0 (with no part of the test below 5.0). TOEFL (paper based): 550 (with minimum grade 4 on the written test part). TOEFL (computer based): 213. TOEFL (internet based): 79.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
T321	Welfare state, social policy and health	7.5

Course content

The course starts by paying attention to welfare research and adopts a historical and comparative perspective that is mainly based on different countries and different welfare models. The course will address how the welfare state's institutional characteristics and programmes can affect stratification processes and health. Focus here is primarily on how social policies may affect the social determinants of health such as impact on gender differences, redistribution of resources and poverty risks.

Learning outcomes

At the end of the course, the student should be able to:

- 1) Describe different ways of capturing welfare state activities and characteristics (regime approach, expenditure approach and the institutional approach) as well as present various advantages and disadvantages of these.
- 2) Describe how social policies and other welfare policies can affect social stratification and redistribution of resources.
- 3) Analyse and critically evaluate how social policies and other welfare policies may affect health outcomes and health inequalities with special emphasis on the types of mechanisms that may be operating.

Education

The teaching will be based on lectures, combined with group discussions. The course is taught in English.

Forms of examination

a) The course is examined through an individual assignment and a take-home exam. The individual assignment will be presented at an examination seminar with mandatory attendance. The examination also includes commenting on another student's individual assignment, and actively participating in discussions during the seminar. Students who miss the mandatory seminar are instead required to do an extra assignment.

b) The grading is based on a goal-oriented seven-point grading scale:

A=Excellent
B=Very good
C=Good
D=Satisfactory
E=Sufficient
Fx=Not sufficient
F=Fail

The individual assignment will be assessed according to a two-point grading scale: Pass (G) or fail (U).

c) The grading criteria will be distributed at course start.

d) The final grade of the course requires a minimum grade of E on the take-home exam, grade G on the individual assignment, participation in the mandatory seminar as well as completed mandatory assignments.

e) A-E will count as Pass on the course. Students who receive Fx or F have the right to undergo additional examination to receive the grade E. Students who have received the grade E or higher cannot undergo a new examination with the purpose of improving the grade. Students who received the grade Fx or F twice by the examiner have the right to request another examiner to decide upon the grade for the course. The request should be forwarded to the Director of Studies who will appoint a new examiner.

Interim

Students can request an examination in accordance to this curriculum up to three terms after it has ceased or been significantly altered.

Required reading

A list of the current course literature is found in the course description.