

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

An introduction to public health sciences

En introduktion till folkhälsovetenskap

7.5 Higher Education

Credits

7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	PH01A0
Valid from:	Autumn 2020
Date of approval:	2019-08-27
Department	Department of Public Health Sciences
Main field:	Public Health
Specialisation:	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

Determined by the Board of the Department of Public Health Sciences, 2019-08-27.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

A degree comprising at least 180 credits, including an independent thesis comprising at least 15 credits, as well as English proficiency equivalent to English 6.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
T011	Individually written take-home exam	7.5

Course content

The purpose of the course is to introduce the student to public health sciences. The course will offer a review of the history of the discipline and introduce its main areas of action with a focus on health research. The course will introduce key theoretical frameworks, empirical examples, as well as some controversial issues related to the discipline. Overall, this course features the social science profile of the discipline at the Department of Public Health Sciences.

Learning outcomes

In order to receive a passing grade on the course, the student should be able to:

- Relate historical medical accomplishments with the development of the discipline.
- Describe the main theoretical frameworks and theories.
- Identify and compare different methodological approaches in public health sciences and describe their objectives and applications.
- Discuss and exemplify relevant topics in public health sciences.
- Summarize different visions about the role of public health sciences in society.
- Explain the social science perspective on public health sciences.
- Reflect on the scientific process in relation to their own competence development in the field of Public Health Sciences.

Education

The teaching will be based on lectures and seminars.

Participation in the seminars is mandatory. In case of absence, the student will be given compensatory assignments.

The course will be taught in English.

See the course description for more detailed information. The course description will be available at least one month before the course starts.

Forms of examination

a) The course is examined through a group assignment (including an oral presentation at a seminar), an individually written take-home exam, and active participation in the seminars. In case of absence, the student will be given compensatory assignments.

The take-home exam will be graded on a goal-based seven-point grading scale (A-F).

The group assignment (including the oral presentation) as well as the participation in the seminars will be graded on a two-point grading scale (G=Pass, U=Fail).

The principles for weighting each part of the examination are presented in the grading criteria.

The examination will be in English.

If the student has a certificate from Stockholm University that recommends special pedagogical support, the examiner has the right to offer the student alternative forms of examination.

b) The course grade will be given on a goal-based seven-point grading scale:

A = Excellent
B = Very good
C = Good
D = Adequate
E = Sufficient

Fail grades

Fx = Fail, some more work required

F = Fail, much more work required

c) The grading criteria will be presented to the students in writing when the course begins.

d) In order to receive a passing grade in the course, the student must receive at least an E grade on the take-home exam, as well as passing grades on the group assignment and participation in the seminars.

e) Two examinations are offered each time the course is taught. For terms when the course is not taught, one examination is offered.

Students who receive a failing grade two consecutive times from the same examiner have the right to request a different examiner to grade the examination. This request should be made to the Director of Studies.

Students who receive an E or higher grade may not be re-examined for the purpose of improving the grade received.

f) It is possible to revise a take-home exam that received an Fx grade to a passing grade, if the student is close to passing.

The passing grades A-E may be received for supplementary revisions that are related to formality errors.

The passing grade E may be received for supplementary revisions that reflect problems related to the more basic understanding of the material presented in the course.

If the supplementary revision of the grade Fx does not meet the requirements for a passing grade, the grade F is received.

A group assignment and participation in the seminars that received a failing U grade can receive a passing G grade with submission of a supplementary assignment, if the student is close to passing.

Interim

Students may request an examination in accordance with this syllabus up to three semesters after the course has ceased or changed significantly.

Limitations

The content of this course overlaps with the course "Population health and health equity" (course code: PH001S) to the extent of 7.5 credits and, therefore, cannot be part of a degree in which "Population health and health equity" is also included.

Misc

Plagiarism, cheating, and self-plagiarism is prohibited in all parts of the course. Suspicion of such cases is reported to the Disciplinary Board at Stockholm University.

This course is given as part of Term 1 of the Master's programme in public health sciences: Societal and individual perspectives. The course is also offered as a single-subject course to the extent there are available resources.

Required reading

The current course literature will be published on the department's website, www.su.se/publichealth, at least two months before the course begins.