

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Health and policy in the welfare state
Hälsa och politik i välfärdsstaten

7.5 Higher Education
Credits
7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	PH14A1
Valid from:	Autumn 2023
Date of approval:	2023-01-24
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.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

A degree comprising at least 180 credits, as well as English proficiency equivalent to English 6.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
1401	Examination I: Individually written take-home exam	7.5

Course content

The course introduces welfare research and adopts a historical and comparative perspective based on different countries and different welfare models. It addresses how the welfare state's institutional characteristics and programmes can affect stratification processes and health – for example by policies that may affect the social determinants of health such as impact on gender differences, redistribution of resources, and poverty risks. The course further covers neoliberal influences on public health and welfare policies, and some of its consequences, since the 1990s such as: marketisation of health and welfare systems through privatisation and de-regulation, shifts towards conditioning and activation policies, individualisation of health, and responsabilisation.

Learning outcomes

In order to receive a passing grade on the course, students are expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

1. Describe historical changes and different ways of capturing welfare state activities and characteristics (e.g. regime approach, expenditure approach and the institutional approach) as well as discuss various advantages and disadvantages of these.

Skills and abilities

2. Analyse the significance of neoliberal transformations of policies and welfare states and corresponding shifts towards marketisation, activation policies, conditioning, as well as individualisation and responsabilisation of health and inequality issues.

Judgement and approach

3. Analyse and critically evaluate how public health and welfare policies may affect social stratification and redistribution of resources as well as health outcomes and health inequalities with special emphasis on the types of mechanisms that may be operating.
4. Reflect on the scientific process demonstrating competence development in the field of Public Health Sciences. This learning outcome only applies to students who read the Master's programme in public health sciences: societal and individual perspectives.

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 a compensatory assignment.

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) Forms of examination

Examination I. Individually written take-home exam

Learning outcomes 1–3 are examined through an individually written take-home exam. Grading will be based on a goal-oriented scale of A to F.

Other grading components

Learning outcomes 1–3 are also examined through the submission of an individual written assignment that is orally presented at an examination seminar. This work also includes commenting upon another student's individual assignment at an examination seminar, as well as active participation in the discussion during these examination seminars. Grading will be based on a two-grade scale (U=Fail, G=Pass).

Learning outcome 4 is examined through active participation in the master's programme's seminar series. In case of absence from or insufficient participation in the seminar, the student will be given a compensatory assignment. Grading will be based on a two-grade scale (U=Fail, G=Pass). This component only applies to students who read the Master's programme in public health sciences: societal and individual perspectives.

Course requirements

Active participation in the seminars is a course requirement. In case of absence from or insufficient participation in a seminar, the student will be given a compensatory assignment.

Language

The examination will be in English.

Certificate of special pedagogical support

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) Course grade

The course grade will be given as follows:

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

Fail grades

- Fx = Inadequate
- F = Wholly inadequate

c) Grading criteria

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

d) Final grade

In order to receive a passing grade in the course, the student must receive passing grades for Examination I and the other grading components, as well as have fulfilled the course requirements.

The final grade is based on Examination I.

e) Examinations

Two examinations are offered each time 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) Supplementary revisions

Supplementary revisions should be submitted within a week after the examiner has announced the need for revisions.

Examination I

It is possible to make a revision of an Fx grade to a passing grading, if the student is close to passing.

The passing grades A-E may be received for supplementary revisions that are related to formality errors or concern a specific part of the examination.

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.

Other grading components

Supplementary revision is possible, if the student is close to passing.

g) Late submission

Late submission is not accepted in this course. In such cases, the student is referred to the retake exam.

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 "Welfare states, social policy and health" (course code: PH011S) and "Health and policy in the welfare state" (course code: PH14A0) to the extent of 7.5 credits and, therefore, cannot be part of a degree in which "Welfare states, social policy and health" or "Health and policy in the welfare state" 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 3 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/coursecatalogue/PH14A1, at least two months before the course begins.