

Syllabus

for course at research level

Introduction to Public Health Sciences: A brief overview
Introduktion till folkhälsovetenskap: En kort översikt

**3.0 Higher Education
Credits**
3.0 ECTS credits

Course code: PH018F1
Valid from: Autumn 2022
Department: Department of Public Health Sciences

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

1. Describe central concepts, theories and models that are used in public health sciences today.
2. Recognize basic analytic methods and epidemiological concepts.

Skills and abilities

3. Identify and critically discuss the basic features of four knowledge areas of public health sciences; a) level and distribution of health and illness, b) health determinants, c) health policy, and d) public health practice.

Judgement and approach

4. Reflect on what role the social science perspective has on public health research and practice.

Content

The purpose of the course is to introduce the field to students with prior limited knowledge in public health sciences. The course provides a basic historical overview, central concepts, theories, models, and analytical methods that are used in public health sciences today. Four knowledge areas of public health sciences are introduced; a) level and distribution of health and diseases in different populations, b) health determinants that affect health status of individuals and populations, c) health policy and its influence on health outcomes, and d) public health practice that focuses on health promotion and disease prevention. The course focuses on the social science perspective in public health.

Mandatory exams

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

Forms of examination

a) The course is examined through:

Examination I. Active participation in a seminar

Learning outcome 4 is examined through active participation in a seminar (1 credit). Grading will be based on a two-point grading scale (G=Pass, U=Fail). In case of absence or if the student receive a fail grade, the student will be given a compensatory assignment.

Examination II. Individual home exam

Learning outcomes 1-3 are examined through an individual home exam (2 credits).
Grading will be based on a two-point grading scale (G=Pass, U=Fail).

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 as follows:

G = Pass

U = Fail

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

d) In order to receive a passing grade in the course, the student must receive pass grade (G) on seminars and on the individually written home-exam.

e) 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.

Home exam that received failing U grades can receive passing G grades with submission of supplementary assignment, if the student is close to passing.

Form of instruction

The teaching will be based on lectures and seminars.

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.

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