



## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

### **SO30003 Research Ethics in Social Work, 5 credits**

Forskningsetik inom socialt arbete, 5 högskolepoäng

*Third-cycle level / Forskarnivå*

---

#### **Confirmation**

This syllabus was confirmed by the Department of Social Work on 2019-09-23, and was last revised on 2023-09-05. The revised course syllabus is valid from Autumn semester 2023.

#### ***Responsible Department***

Department of Social Work, Faculty of Social Sciences

#### **Entry requirements**

In order to be eligible for the course, the applicant must be admitted to third-cycle studies in social work or another related subject.

#### **Learning outcomes**

Upon completing the course, students should be able to:

##### ***Knowledge and understanding***

- Account for and reflect on the history of research ethics with a focus on social sciences
- Independently account for research ethical principles, concepts and dilemmas.

##### ***Competence and skills***

- Use a power perspective related to ethical considerations in relation to the own dissertation project
- Identify, analyse and discuss different approaches and dilemmas in research ethics and research ethics
- Relate your own research project to research ethics in social work.

##### ***Judgement and approach***

- Independently review some doctoral theses in social work based on concepts and perspectives in the course literature

- Explain and motivate own approaches in relation to research ethics in social work

## Course content

The course consists of lectures and literature seminars on a number of themes:

- Central research ethical concepts, dilemmas and perspectives
- Research ethics from a power perspective
- Current debate on social science research ethics
- Ethical review and research ethics guidelines
- Data security and research data management
- Reflexivity and positioning in relation to own research in social work

The course covers different forms of data collection: qualitative methods (e.g. interviews, participatory observations), quantitative surveys (e.g. questionnaire studies) and desk studies (e.g. archival research). The course participants are trained to identify research ethical issues in others' as well as in their own research and how to handle them.

## Types of instruction

Lectures and seminars.

### *Language of instruction*

The course is given in Swedish.

## Grades

The grade Pass (G) or Fail (U) is given in this course.

## Types of assessment

Examination of the course is in the form of a written analytical essay, which problematises and discusses a number of research ethical issues, based on two dissertations and the course literature. Passing the course requires preparation in the form of reading the prescribed course literature, as well as active participation in the seminars. The Seminars are compulsory. In the event of absence, a supplementary assignment is required.

## Course evaluation

It is the course coordinator's responsibility to ensure that course participants are prepared to submit a written course evaluation at the end of the course.

## Other information

If the number of applicants is less than five, the department reserves the right to provide the course in a reduced format, e.g. as a reading course, possibly with associated seminars.