



Department of Social Sciences

Undergraduate Social Work PROGRAMME,

SYLLABUS

Socionom & Bachelor of Science in Social Work,

210 ECTS

PROGRAMME SYLLABUS

Socionom & Bachelor of Science in Social Work, 210 ECTS

The Social Work Under-graduate Programme for 210 ECTS leads to a *Socionom* & B.Sc. degree in social work with a general focus. Semesters 1-6 are on the first cycle and semester 7 (181-210 ECTS) on the advanced level. The program is being built up with Social Work as the main academic discipline. The education is based on the programme syllabus approved by the Research and Education Board, Ersta Sköndal University College on November, 25, 2010 and is valid from the Fall Semester of 2011. Revisions have been made on February 20, 2013 in the line with the ordinance SFS 2012:910.

Program description

Through the Social Work Program, the student should acquire and develop the knowledge and skills required in their future profession to meet people in difficult life situations and contribute to significant improvements in their conditions.

The student should acquire an awareness of the segregating and excluding social processes as well as knowledge about interventions that can counteract such processes. The student will develop the ability to critically reflect on the social work content and organization, and understand the meaning of constructive collaboration with colleagues from other professional fields.

The theoretical elements of this program, the preparatory professional approach and work-based components will be designed so that they are constantly related to each other through critical reflection. The program emphasizes the importance of both personal commitment and professional interventions based on ethical awareness and best practice standards in knowledge.

Prerequisites and special admission requirements

For admission to this social work under-graduate programme applicants must satisfy general entrance requirements for university studies as stipulated in the Higher Education Ordinance, as well as specific requirements as follows:

- as least 3 in the subject Swedish from a 3-year program and at least 3 in the subjects English and Social Sciences from the former High School, or,
- at least "passed" in Swedish B, or Swedish 2, English A or English 5 and A in Social Sciences or the equivalence 1a1 or 1a1+1a2 from the new High School/Komvux,
- merit courses within the eligible area 5.

Goals and guidelines

The Goals and guidelines have been designed in accordance with the The Higher Education Ordinance SFS 1992:1434 and amendments until SFS 2012:910.

Description of the Degree

The description of this degree can be found in the Ordinance SFS 1993:100, with amendments until SFS 2010:1064.

Extent

For fulfilling the Socionom & Bachelor of Science in Social Work, the students should complete the requirements of in total 210 ECTS.

Expected learning outcomes

Learning objectives of the social work under-graduate programme

In the Degree Ordinance for first level university education (SFS 1993:100, with the amendments until SFS 2010:1064) it is stipulated that to gain the degree of Bachelor of Science in Social Work, students must demonstrate the knowledge and skills required for independent social work at the individual, group and societal levels.

Knowledge and understanding

For the degree of Bachelor of Science in Social Work students must

- demonstrate knowledge of the scientific basis of the field and awareness of current work of research and development
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the interplay between the social situations of individuals and groups, their living conditions, physical and mental health and their functional capacity relative to social and other background factors
- demonstrate knowledge of leadership in social work, and
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of children's needs and of the social and family circumstances that affect the conditions governing the lives of women and men.

Skills and abilities

For the degree of Bachelor of Science in Social Work students must

- demonstrate the skills and ability required to develop and carry out social work at different levels in society in co-operation with the people concerned,
- demonstrate ability to apply relevant legislation, particularly in the social field,
- demonstrate ability to understand, investigate and analyse social processes and problems, and
- demonstrate ability to identify, structure, investigate and evaluate interventions at the individual, group and societal levels.

Judgement and approach

For the degree of Bachelor of Science in Social Work students must

- demonstrate self-knowledge and a capacity for empathy,
- demonstrate ability to make intervention assessments based on a holistic approach to human beings and on relevant scientific, social and ethical aspects, paying particular attention to human rights,
- demonstrate professional conduct and a professional approach,
- demonstrate insight into the significance of teamwork and co-operation with other professional groups, and
- demonstrate ability to identify their own needs of further knowledge and to continuously upgrade their capabilities.

Independent work (degree project)

For the degree of Bachelor of Science in Social Work students must complete an independent project within the framework of programme for at least 15 ECTS.

Further information

For the degree of Bachelor of Science in Social Work there are other demands to be fulfilled that are specified by each university within the framework of this qualification descriptor.

Programme structure

This program is conducted as full-time study. A student active learning is accompanied through lectures, seminars, skills training and placement. The courses deal with thematic social work from different aspects and consist of integrated modules.

Work placement (internship) recurs throughout the program and aims to link the theoretical and practical elements.

Similarly, there are recurring elements that strengthen the individual student's personal professional development (PPU). Also, this work is done in interaction with the course content in general.

The program includes an international dimension throughout the courses. This can be done through field studies in other countries, through contacts with visiting students, through contact with the researchers at the international level or through the international academic activities at the department. Each course has a syllabus and study guide in which the goals, forms and examination elements are described.

Programme content

The 210 ECTS-Program is organised as follows:

Semester 1: An Introduction to Social Work, 30 ECTS

This course provides an introduction to social work as a discipline, profession and field with a first glimpse into people's living conditions, rights and social problems. The course also introduces the scientific theory and research methods in social work and social policy and political science. In the practical module, the focus is on the municipal organization and the professional role of social workers. In total 15 ECTS is in social work. The course is divided into five modules:

- The subject, profession and theories in social work, 7.5 ECTS
- Theory and research methods in Social Work I, 7.5 ECTS
- The organization of welfare, 7.5 ECTS
- Field practice I, 5.5 ECTS
- Personal professional development I, 2 ECTS

Semester 2: Perspectives on Social Work, 30 ECTS

The course provides basic knowledge of social science theories relevant for social work. It gives students the opportunity to discuss social problems related to children, disabilities and substance abuse in relation to current theories and explanatory models. The course highlights from a life course perspective needs, living conditions and social problems during childhood/youth, adulthood, aging and end of life. In the practice module the focus is on organizations and social areas of concern from the user perspective. 22.5 ECTS are in social work. The course is divided into four modules:

- Social Science Perspectives on Social Work, 15 ECTS
- Explanatory models in social work, 7.5 ECTS
- Practice II, 5.5 ECTS
- Personal Professional Development II 2 ECTS

Semester 3: Law in social work, 30 ECTS

The course provides knowledge of the law and legal methods for the student to be able to interpret and apply the law in areas relevant to social work. EU Law, Human Rights, the UN Convention on the rights of children are dealt with separately. The course provides students the ability to reflect critically on law and its application in the social work on an individual, group and structural level. The course includes work placement education with a focus on authority, and legal and social investigative skills. 7.5 ECTS is in social work. The course is divided into four modules:

- Law in Social Work I - Public Law and Private Law, 7.5 ECTS
- Law in Social Work II - Social Law, 15 ECTS
- Social practice III: The legal implementation of the investigative work, 5.5 ECTS
- Personal Professional Development III, 2 ECTS

Semester 4: Social Work and Social Welfare, 30 ECTS

This course provides advanced knowledge of socio-political and socio-economic theories and their relation to different social policy reforms and measures. In addition, students carry out a business project placed on any aspect of social work practice. The project is implemented and supported by relevant research methods. Of course 30 ECTS read 22.5 ECTS in social work. The course is divided into four modules:

- The welfare organization II, 7.5 ECTS
- Theory and Research Methods in Social Work II, 7.5 ECTS
- Social practice IV Project, 13 ECTS
- Personal Professional Development IV, 2 ECTS

Semester 5: The practice of social work I, 30 ECTS

The course provides the basic knowledge and skills regarding working methods in social work. Included are interviewing methodology, theory of communication, interaction, and issues of power and ethics. During the course, students' knowledge and skills in social work are enhanced through a longer social practice sessions. Key elements include skills straining in the practice of social work, as well as development of the personal professional role. All 30 ECTS are in social work. The course is divided into two modules:

- Methods in Social Work I, 7.5 ECTS
- Social practice V, 22.5 ECTS

Term 6: Social work and knowledge, 30 ECTS

In this course, the students will apply their acquired knowledge in social work in their own scientific text production through the thesis work. This course provides advanced knowledge of scientific theory and research methods in social work, including research ethics, knowledge search and - analysis. 24.5 ECTS are in social work. The course is divided into four modules:

- Theory and Research Methods in Social Work III, 5.5 ECTS
- Theories of Social Work, elective modules, 7.5 ECTS
- Thesis work in Social Work, 15 ECTS
- Personal Professional Development V, 2 ECTS

Semester 7: The Social Work Practice II, 30 ECTS

The course, which is read at an advanced level, deepens knowledge and enhance the skills in methods of social work. Other key topics include ethical issues in social work, methods of evaluation and quality assurance and the relationship between social policy and economics. 22.5 ECTS in social work. The course is divided into four modules:

- The welfare organization III, 7.5 ECTS
- Methods in Social Work II, 7.5 ECTS
- Ethical perspectives on social practices, 7.5 ECTS
- Organization Assessment and professional development, 7.5 ECTS

Evaluation of the Education

Evaluation of the education in relation to learning outcomes takes place on a regular basis and is worked out in collaboration between students, teachers and the Department Board, with the aim of providing a basis for measures to improve the quality of the programme.

Examination, Grading and Credit Transfer

Examination is important for the learning process and for quality control as well as control of how well expected learning outcomes have been achieved by the individual student. Forms of examination vary throughout the programme.

Grades are set in accordance with the stipulations of the Higher Education Ordinance (1993:100). The grades given are Passed with Distinction, Passed and Failed or according to agreement between X University and Ersta Sköndal University College. Unless otherwise prescribed in the course syllabus, grades are given at the end of each course. Grades are set by a specially appointed examiner.

Students who do not pass their exam on the normal first occasion are offered a further five chances within a reasonable space of time. Students who fail an exam twice have the right to request another examiner. Such requests shall be made to the responsible head of department for this under-graduate programme or a designated deputy. Students who fail their field practice may have the chance of a second trainee post. Students who also fail at this second attempt may not continue studies in this programme.

The right to transfer of ECTS from previous studies is assessed in accordance with the rules of the Higher Education Ordinance (1993:100). This assessment is carried out by the head of department or a designated deputy if so applied for by a student.

Course and degree certificates and title of qualification

Students who have passed all the courses in the programme for 210 ECTS may obtain a degree certificate upon request. The student can apply for The Bachelor of Science in Social Work 180 ECTS after six semesters of completed studies.