

Syllabus

Theoretical Approaches to Sociological Analysis

7.5 Credits

Code: SO3FU11

Finalized by: Institutionsstyrelsen vid Sociologiska institutionen, 2025-12-16

Valid from: Spring semester 2026 (2026-01-19)

Level within study regulation: Third cycle

Course modules: Theoretical Approaches to Sociological Analysis , 7.5 Credits

1.Entry requirements

Basic requirements for studies at doctoral level.

2.Learning outcomes

To pass, the student must

in terms of knowledge and understanding:

- have knowledge about different ways of developing and using sociological theory
- be able to understand similarities and differences between different ways of developing and using sociological theory
- be able to understand the meaning of developing and using sociological theory in different ways

in terms of accomplishment and competence:

- be able to account for different ways of developing and using sociological theory
- identify important similarities and differences between different ways of developing and using sociological theory
- be able to theorize to analyze social phenomena

in terms of values and evaluation:

- be able to critically assess the merits and limitations of different theoretical approaches
- reflect around consequences of different ways of developing and using sociological theory

3.Content

This course presents different theoretical approaches to sociological analysis, in terms of both theory application and theory development. It also presents different ways of defining concepts and of writing and presenting theory. The course relates to substantive

sociological themes for examples, but the focus is on the forms of working with and developing theory per se.

4.Mandatory exams

Teaching takes the form of lectures, seminars and group exercises.

Peer-review is a mandatory part of the course. Muntlig kamratgranskning är ett obligatoriskt inslag i kursen.

Compensation for peer review is possible. Compensation consists of a written peer-review, submitted at the same time as the examination.

Compensation of absence is possible by providing a written summary of the reading for the class. Attendance is compulsory.

Up to two absences may be compensated with supplementary assignments.

5.Forms of examination

The course is examined by a course paper and a reflection about the course content.

The grades are according to a scale including pass or fail. Written grade criteria are communicated to the students at the start of the course.

To pass, students are required to submit a course paper, complete obligatory tasks and attend the teaching, with at most two absent classes. The student must redo the course if absent more than from two classes.

For each time the course is offered, there will be at least two occasions for examination within a year. A student who has received fail twice by an examiner has the right to ask for a different examiner to assess the grade of the course paper, if there are no special reasons speaking against this. The request should be made to the director of studies.

Plagiarism, cheating, illicit cooperation or use of AI

As part of your responsibility as a student, it is important to know the rules that exist for examination. Detailed information is available on both the department's and Stockholm University's website. Teachers are obliged to report suspicions of cheating and plagiarism to the rector and the disciplinary committee. Plagiarism and cheating always become a disciplinary matter and can lead to suspension. An example of plagiarism is to write a text verbatim or almost verbatim (also applies to single sentences) without stating the source.

This also applies to texts you yourself have written before (self-plagiarism). For example, cheating includes having unauthorized aids, such as a mobile phone, on trial. Having study groups together is developing and time-saving, but when it comes to examination tasks, you must be careful to work yourself (unless otherwise clearly stated) so as not to risk it being considered unauthorized collaboration. Use of ChatGPT or similar tools for examinations without explicit authorization and confirmation is considered as cheating.

Interim

Students can request to have examination according to this syllabus up to three semesters after it has stopped to be valid.

Limitations

The course cannot be included in a degree together with a course with the same or partly the same content as this course. No admission to this course is possible for anyone who has passed the course SO7022 Theoretical approaches 7.5 credits.

Current bibliography is available no later than two months before the start of the course.