Stockholm University

Course description

Course code:	**PH07A2**
Course name:	**Narrative analysis**
Course credits:	**2,5**
Valid from:	**Spring term 2025**

Course content

Course content: The course provides knowledge about diverse qualitative methods related to narrative analysis. The aim is for the students to learn how to apply these methods in qualitative analysis. The course covers three different approaches to analyse narrative material: Thematic narrative analysis, structural narrative analysis, and performative narrative analysis.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

1. Differentiate between different methods in narrative analysis.

Skills and abilities

2. Apply these methods in the analysis of qualitative material. *Judgement and approach*
3. Evaluate one's own analysis in relation to research setting, question, and data.

Teaching

The teaching will be based on lectures and seminars in the form of workshops in which the methods are applied.

Several sessions will require preparatory work consisting of readings or other preparations (see the *Schedule*, below, and *Plans* at the course website in Athena for detailed information on every session, e.g., readings, preparatory work, instructions, and links).

Active participation in the teaching and seminars is mandatory. In case of absence, the student will be given compensatory assignments to be submitted via Athena. The course will be taught in English.

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Forms of examination

Examination I. Individual written assignment

Learning outcomes 1–2 are examined through one practical assignment with individual submission.

Other grading components

Learning outcome 3 is examined through active participation in a seminar. In case of absence from or insufficient participation in the seminar, the student will be given a compensatory assignment.

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 which recommends special pedagogical support, the examiner has the right to offer the student alternative forms of examination.

The written individual assignment in more detail

Q3.1 – Narrative analysis

Analyse the two life stories that the teacher provides from two perspectives:

1) First by doing a thematic narrative analysis
2) Secondly by doing a structural narrative analysis

Full instructions for the examination are posted in Athena at the course start.

Late submission

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

Learning platform Athena

We use the learning platform Athena (itslearning) for sharing information and course material. You log into Athena by using your university account via: https://athena.itslearning.com/

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Schedule

You can find the course schedule in TimeEdit via the course web page or via the course page in Athena.

Course literature

This more detailed course literature list presents web links to each reference and reading instructions (in case you are not required to read the whole book). Many of the links require that you log in with your Stockholm University username and password to access the full text versions. You may also search for the references via Stockholm University Library's webpage (https://www.su.se/english/library/). The anthology by Järvinen and Mik-Meyer (2020) and Riessman's book "Narrative Methods for the Human Sciences" can be borrowed from the library. They are unavailable as e-books via the library, but students may themselves access them via SAGE (see the links provided below).

Required reading (167 pages)

Bal, M. (2017). Narratology: Introduction to the theory of narrative. University of Toronto Press, Chapter 3.3: Actors (pp. 165-177).
SECTION IN A BOOK| ENGLISH | 13 pages, https://web-p-ebscohost-com.ezp.sub.su.se/ehost/ebookviewer/ebook/bmxlYmtfXzE1OTA1NzRfX0FO0?sid=071c1e48-f394-455d-a265f636e1953bc3@redis&vid=0&format=EB&rid=1

Bamberg, M. (2020). Narrative analysis: An integrative approach. In M. Järvinen & N. Mik-Meyer (Eds.), Qualitative analysis: Eight approaches for the social sciences (pp. 243–264). SAGE Publishing.
BOOK CHAPTER | ENGLISH | 21 PAGES, https://www.ebooks.com/en-se/book/detail/209820118/

Braun, V., & Clarke, V. (2006). Using thematic analysis in psychology. Qualitative Research in Psychology, 3(2), 77–101.
ARTICLE | ENGLISH | 24 pages | https://doi.org/10.1191/1478088706qp063oa

Cooper, R. A (2021). "I Am a Caregiver": Sense-making and Identity Construction through Online Caregiving Narratives. Journal of Family Communication, 21, 2, 77-89.
ARTICLE | ENGLISH | 13 PAGES

Riessman, C. K. (2008). Narrative Methods for the Human Sciences. Sage. Chapter 3: Thematic Analysis (pp. 63-87).
BOOK CHAPTER | ENGLISH | 25 PAGES, https://www.ebooks.com/en-se/book/1995869/narrative-methods-for-the-humansciences/catherine-kohler-riessman/

Riessman, C. K. (2008). Narrative Methods for the Human Sciences. Sage. Chapter 3: Structural Analysis (pp.88-114).
BOOK CHAPTER | ENGLISH | 26 PAGES, https://www.ebooks.com/en-se/book/1995869/narrative-methods-for-the-humansciences/catherine-kohler-riessman/

Sandberg, S. (2022). Narrative analysis in criminology. Criminal Justice Education, 33:2, 212-229.
ARTICLE | ENGLISH | 18 pages, https://doi.org/10.1080/10511253.2022.2027479

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Torbenfeldt Bengtsson, T., & Andersen, D. (2020). Narrative analysis: Thematic, structural and performative. In M. Järvinen & N. Mik-Meyer (Eds.), *Qualitative analysis: Eight approaches for the social sciences* (pp. 265–282). SAGE Publishing.
BOOK CHAPTER | ENGLISH | 17 PAGES |:https://www.ebooks.com/en-se/book/detail/209820118/

Törrönen, J. (2021). Relational agency and identity navigation in life stories on addiction: Developing narrative tools to analyze the interplay between multiple selves. *International Journal of Qualitative Methods*.
ARTICLE | ENGLISH | 10 PAGES,
https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/epub/10.1177/16094069221078378

Recommended reading

Given, L. (2008). The SAGE Encyclopedia of Qualitative Research Methods. SAGE
Publications, Inc. https://doi.org/10.4135/9781412963909
ONLINE DICTIONARY | ENGLISH

Jupp, V. (Ed.). (2006). *The SAGE dictionary of social research methods*. SAGE Publications, Ltd. https://dx-doi-org.ezp.sub.su.se/10.4135/9780857020116
ONLINE DICTIONARY | ENGLISH

Referencing

The APA citation format should be used for all referencing.

You can find a reference guide to APA on this page: https://kib.ki.se/en/writecite/writing-references-apa-vancouver/reference-guides/reference-guide-apa-7

By using a reference managing software you can collect and organize your references and insert them into your document in a desired format. Via the library's web page you can watch a film with information on how to handle your references. There you will also find information on the most used programs: https://www.su.se/cmlink/portaler-nod/webb-2021-nod/svensk-webb2021/centrala-gamla/library/tutorials/tutorials/reference-management-software-1.264569

Plagiarism

Plagiarism, cheating, or self-plagiarism is prohibited in all parts of the course.

You may not copy text from the course literature or other sources, or present other people's ideas or work as your own – this is plagiarism. Summaries or other use of original texts must always be written in your own words and followed by a correct reference. Short quotations (with citation marks) are accepted if necessary, but should be used sparsely and always be accompanied by your own interpretation of the text and a correct reference with page number.

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Self-plagiarism is to use your own text once again, without reference to your original text. This could be text from published articles, or text from other assignments you have written before, such as home exams or a thesis.

All examinations are controlled through a software for detecting plagiarism. Suspicion of cheating, plagiarism or self-plagiarism is reported to the Disciplinary Board at Stockholm University.

For more information, please see: https://www.su.se/staff/organisationgovernance/governing-documents-rules-and-regulations/education/guidelines-fordisciplinary-matters-at-stockholm-university-1.181

Use of AI chatbots

Use of ChatGPTor other AI chatbots is not permitted in any of the course's examinations.

It is not permitted to use ChatGPTor other AI chatbots to answer questions in the multiple-choice test.

Use of ChatGPTor other AI chatbots to generate [or process] text for the take home exam is not permitted. It is also not permitted to use such services to make extensive changes to the structure or content of your text.

Use of ChatGPTor other AI chatbots to proofread text for the home exam is permitted (for example, prompts such as: "Can you proofread this text?" or “Can you check this text for grammar?”).

Use of ChatGPTor other AI chatbots to generate ideas for case descriptions is permitted.

Suspicion of illicit use of AI chatbots will be tested in tracking tools for AI-generated text and suspected cases will be reported to the Disciplinary Committee at Stockholm University.

For students who have been granted special pedagogical support

You need to inform the study counsellor in the very beginning of the term (studievagledare.publichealth@su.se) that you require pedagogical support. You then also need to present the certificate which you have received from the coordinator for special pedagogical support at Stockholm University.

Please also contact the study counsellor before the start of each new course, to plan for an alternative/accommodated form of examination, if possible.

Grading criteria

The course grade will be given on a two-point grading scale (G=Pass, U=Fail).

The grading *(pass)* criteria will be presented to the students in writing when the course begins.

In order to receive a passing grade in the course, the student must receive passing G grade on the individual assignment and participation in the seminars.

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Two examinations are offered each time the 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.

Individual assignment and participation in seminars that received a failing U grade can receive a passing G grade with submission of a supplementary assignment, if the student is close to passing.

Interim: Students may request an examination in accordance with this syllabus up to three semesters after the course has ceased or changed significantly.

Contact information

Course manager

Course manager
Jukka Törrönen, jukka.torronen@su.se

Teacher
Jukka Törrönen, jukka.torronen@su.se

Please contact the course manager via the message function in Athena.

Course administrator

kursadmin.publichealth@su.se

Study counsellor

studievagledare.publichealth@su.se

Director of studies, basic and advanced level

studierektor.ga.publichealth@su.se