



**Karolinska
Institutet**

Course syllabus for

Introduction to Public Health Sciences, 7.5 credits

Introduktion till folkhälsovetenskap, 7.5 hp

This course has been cancelled, for further information see Transitional provisions in the last version of the syllabus.

Please note that the course syllabus is available in the following versions:

Autumn2007 , Autumn2009 , Autumn2011 , Autumn2012 , Autumn2013 , Autumn2014 , Autumn2015 , Autumn2016

Course code	4FH004
Course name	Introduction to Public Health Sciences
Credits	7.5 credits
Form of Education	Higher Education, study regulation 2007
Main field of study	Public Health Sciences
Level	AV - Second cycle
Grading scale	Pass with distinction, Pass, Fail
Department	Department of Global Public Health
Participating institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Department of Biosciences and Nutrition
Decided by	Arbetsgruppen för masterprogrammet i folkhälsovetenskap
Decision date	2007-05-10
Course syllabus valid from	Autumn 2007

Specific entry requirements

Bachelor's degree or vocational training corresponding to 180 ECTS credits (120 credits in previous Swedish system) in public health sciences, health care, or another relevant medical or social science subject area

Objectives

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to: - analytically discuss, in written form, basic scientific concepts, methodological perspectives, and extra-scientific factors that govern public health research, - understand the evaluation of global trends affecting health, including epidemics, injuries, chronic health problems, and mental illnesses, - critically compare different approaches to management of public health problems and to promoting health, and interpret opposing viewpoints in these fields, - formulate at least two potential research themes within the field of public health that might be pursued as a topic for a master thesis

Content

1. Foundations of modern public health: An overview 2. Data on populations and mortality, inequality in health 3. The burden of disease and other summary measures of population health 4. Health care services and population health 5. Communicable diseases and public health 6. Non-communicable diseases and public health 7. The importance of environmental health in public health 8. Philosophy-of-science perspectives on public-health research

Teaching methods

The course will be given on location as well as by distance learning over the internet. The on-location version of the course requires complete attendance in lectures and seminars. Students will be given independent assignments, to be reported in writing and discussed in class. One assignment is to interview a local public health official. The internet version of the course, which requires that the student has ongoing access to the internet, is based on text readings, report writing, and one interview with a local public health official. Each week students who study the distance version of the course will be asked to post one of their short reports to the class website, in order to share their findings with other students.

Examination

The on-location version of the course includes six written examinations and assignments. The examinations consist of multiple-choice and essay questions. Progress reports take place every Friday. Material covered during each week will be the source of Friday examination questions. Students have the option of submitting up to two reports based on material in obligatory reading, in order to make up missed work or to obtain additional points leading to a passing grade. The internet version of the course includes two written examinations, one midterm and one final exam. Both include multiple-choice and essay questions. In each examination students have the option of resubmitting multiple-choice items until they answer each item correctly. It will further be possible to submit up to two reports based on material in obligatory readings, in order to make up missed work or to qualify for a passing grade

Literature and other teaching aids

Issues in public health

Pomerleau, Joceline; McKee, Martin

Maidenhead ; a New York, NY : Open University Press, 2005 - viii, 225 p.

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