



DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

PX36003 Gerontology - from multidisciplinary to integrative perspectives on aging, 5 credits

Gerontologi - flervetenskapliga och integrativa perspektiv på åldrandet, 5 högskolepoäng

Third-cycle level / Forskarnivå

Confirmation

This syllabus was confirmed by the Department of Psychology on 2020-10-05, and is valid from Autumn semester 2020.

Responsible Department

Department of Psychology, Faculty of Social Sciences

Entry requirements

The student must be admitted to the PhD Programme

Learning outcomes

A student that successfully completes the course should be able to:

(Students participating in the second sub-course should also meet the learning outcomes marked with *)

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate a thorough understanding of the life-course context of aging and the interplay among biological, psychological, and social aging processes
- analyze how aging and age-related change affect individual health, well-being and societal participation
- demonstrate an understanding of how various theoretical perspectives and methodologies affect empirical research and our understanding of aging and older people

Competence and skills

- present and defend own scientific perspectives on aging in dialogue with doctoral

candidates from other disciplines and fields of aging research

- demonstrate a systematic and thorough understanding of the multidisciplinary nature of aging research and how to utilize that in own and others research*

Judgement and approach

- present critical reflections of strengths and weaknesses in own research and potentials for cross-fertilization and integration of other perspectives
- present qualified peer-review evaluations of the scientific quality of others dissertation projects and own research*

Course content

The course consists of two sub-courses :

- Perspectives on aging
- Implementation in own research (optional)

Sub-courses

1. Perspectives on aging (*Perspektiv på åldrande*), 3 credits

The first sub-course presents current research in biological, medical, physiological, psychological, social, and cultural gerontology. Overview lectures on these topics are offered to demonstrate how various scientific perspectives are reflected in research questions and in current knowledge on aging and health. The content is intended to provide a platform for reflections on multidisciplinary and integrative perspectives on aging, including shared and unique theoretical and methodological approaches in various disciplines.

2. Implementation in own research (optional) (*Implementering i egen forskning (valfri)*), 2 credits

In the second sub-course doctoral candidates should analyze the position of their own dissertation projects within the multidisciplinary gerontology, evaluate the scientific qualities and multidisciplinary and integrative conditions in own and others dissertation projects.

Types of instruction

Teaching will take place in the form of lectures, seminars, and exercises.

Language of instruction

The course is given in English.

Grades

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

Types of assessment

Examination will be in the form of individual written assignments and active participation in seminars. Attendance is mandatory at seminars. Absence must be compensated according to the

course leader's instructions.

A doctoral student, who has failed twice in the same examination, has the right to have another examiner appointed, unless special reasons contradict it. Such a request is to be submitted to the department in writing and granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary. If the course is changed to content and/or literature, examination can be done according to this syllabus within one year of the change. In the event that the course has ceased, it can be examined within one year after the course has last been given. Thereafter, it should be scrutinized in each individual case if examination may be made.

Course evaluation

The course coordinator is responsible for ensuring that doctoral students are given the opportunity to provide an anonymous, written course evaluation at the end of the course. After the course is finished, the course coordinator writes a report, which includes a summary of the course evaluation. The report is processed in the Drafting committee for doctoral studies (FUB) and will be communicated to those doctoral students who completed the course evaluation, as well as the doctoral students who will start the next course. These reports will be made available for doctoral students.

Other information

The course is offered in collaboration with Centre for Ageing and Health (AgeCap) at the University of Gothenburg and the Swedish National Graduate School for Competitive Science on Ageing and Health (SWEAH) at Lund University. The first sub-course, perspectives on aging, is part of the SWEAH curriculum and candidates affiliated to SWEAH are therefore given precedence to the course.