

Problem Based Learning (PBL)

Emnekode: NOSWEL xxx

ECTS: 15

Module: Problem Based Learning (PBL)

Language: English

Semester: Autumn

Content:

The module is connected closely to the modules 'Field Study' (5 ECTS) and 'Practice Research and Service User Perspectives' (10 ECTS). Although divided into three modules the three modules will be overlapping as 'Practice Research and Service User Perspectives' will be the focus of the Field Study and the PBL-project.

The module will introduce and improve the students' understanding of problem based approach and prepare the student to use the approach in all three 'Aalborg modules'.

Module structure

The module is divided into different subjects:

- PBL – a general introduction
- PBL – the connection to Social Work, Practice Research and Service User Perspectives
- Writing a PBL-project on the basis of a Field Study and the overall theme of Practice research and Service User perspectives
- PBL-project seminar – groups present and discuss critically issues from the process of investigating and writing a project

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes are defined as statements of what a learner knows, understands and is able to do upon completion of a learning process. Learning outcomes are defined in terms of knowledge, skills and competences. The integration of knowledge, skills, attitudes and displaying competences, promote an approach that sustain the development of analytical and critical attitude when reflecting upon specific situations.

On completion of this module the student will have:

Knowledge:

- about problem based theories, methods and processes
- about how to put problem based approaches into action
- about the general connection and collaboration between problem based learning and social work and welfare
- about the more specific connection and collaboration between problem based learning, service users and practice research

Skills:

In a problem based way:

- to define problems to be studied, analyzed and critically reflected through service user perspectives and practice research

- to demonstrate analytical knowledge in collaboration with different stakeholders in social work

Competences:

- to develop problem based research with different actors in complex practices
- to implement reflective and knowledge based improvements in social work with a clear reference to theoretical, methodological, empirical experiences in the field of study
- to take responsibility for her/his own learning processes and outcome

Study Methods

Lectures, seminars, group work, discussions and project writing. All students are expected to read the syllabus and participate in group discussions and thereby develop analytic reflections in a productive environment with fellow students.

Assessment:

The PBL project is written in groups established in the beginning of the semester. Based on reading, lectures and discussions students will write a project during the second half of the semester. Groups will be supervised by members of the teaching team. At the group assessment students will orally defend the written report in a discussion with two members of the teaching team. The final grade is based on how the written report and the oral examination. The written part counts 50 % and the oral part counts 50 %. Students will get one final mark.

Readings:

Savin-Baden M. & C.H. Major (2004). Problem-based learning and theories of learning. Open University Press (12 pages) (PDF, Blackboard)

Krogh L. & A.A. Jensen (2013). The development of PBL-methodologies in Denmark and current challenges in eds. Krogh L. & A.A. Jensen Visions, Challenges and Strategies – PBL principles and methodologies in a Danish and Global perspective. Aalborg University Press. (10 pages) (PDF, Blackboard)

Laursen E. (2013). PBL: a flexible model addressing the problems of transfer in eds. Krogh L. & A.A. Jensen Visions, Challenges and Strategies – PBL principles and methodologies in a Danish and Global perspective. Aalborg University Press. (12 pages) (PDF, Blackboard)

Principles of problem and project based learning, The Aalborg PBL model. Aalborg University 2,10. (24 pages) (PDF, Blackboard)

Evaluation:

The module will be evaluated at the end of the semester

Responsible faculty and department:

Faculty of social sciences, Department of Sociology and Social Work

Coordinator:

Maja Lundemark Andersen