

Field Study

Emnekode: NOSWEL xxx

ECTS: 5

Module: Field Study

Language: English

Semester: Autumn

Content:

The module is connected closely to modules 'Problem based learning (15 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 aim of the module is to provide students with knowledge, skills and competences to conduct a field study with a focus on practice research and service user perspectives. Students will through visits in social work practices conduct a piece of study defining the specific institutional dynamics within the organization related to service user perspectives and practice research.

Module structure

The module is divided into different subjects:

- Scientific positions and methodology in Field Studies (Three lectures)
- Presentation of Field Study practices and formation of groups
- Field Study visits

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes are defined as statements of what a student 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 various institutional contexts and actors of welfare production and social work practice including social work actors
- about differentiation and complex dynamics in social interventions
- about practice research methodologies and processes

Skills:

- to identify, analyze and understand how practice research and service user perspectives are at work and constitute complex dynamics within social work practice
- to demonstrate analytical knowledge in collaboration with different stakeholders in social work

Competences:

- to conduct a practice research based field study in institutional contexts characterized by a complexity – and to reflect theoretically, methodologically and ethically
- to take responsibility for your own learning processes and outcome

Study Methods:

Lectures, group work, discussions and Field Study visits. All students are expected to read the syllabus and to participate in group work and Field Study visit.

Assessment:

Assessment is made on the basis of presentation and discussions of the Field Study including the initial analysis of service user perspectives. Students are expected – in groups – to present the results of the Field Study to representatives from the teaching team and co-students. The presentation will, together with the ability to defend reflections in the following discussion, form the basis for the assessment. Students will either fail or pass.

Readings:

Schutz A, and Luckmann T. 1989. The life-world as the province of practice. In *The Structures of the Life-world*. Vol II.: Northwestern University Press. P. 1-21 (21 pages) (Self Copy)

Polkinghorne, Donald 1983. Existential-phenomenological and hermeneutic systems. In *Methodology for the Human Sciences*. State University of New York Press. P. 201-240 (39 pages) (Self Copy)

Spradley J. 1979. Discovering cultural themes. In *The Ethnographic Interview*. Florida: HBJ Publ. P. 185-202. (19 pages) (Self Copy)

DeVault M.L. and L. McCoy 2006. Institutional Ethnography: Using interviews to investigate ruling relations. In Smith D. ed. 2006. *Institutional Ethnography as Practice*. Toronto: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc. P 15-44. (29 pages) (Self Copy)

Høgsbro K. 2010. SIMREB - Towards a systematic inquiry into models for rehabilitation. *Scandinavian Journal of Disability Research* 12 (1): 1-18. (18 pages), (PDF, Blackboard)

Hammersley M, and Atkinson P. 2007. Access. In *Ethnography - principles in practice*. Third edition. New York: Routledge. P. 41-62. (21 pages) (Self Copy)

Hammersley M, and Atkinson P. 2007. Ethics. In *Ethnography - principles in practice*. Third edition. New York: Routledge. P. 209-229 (20 pages) (Self Copy)

Spradley J. 1979. Writing an ethnography. In *The Ethnographic Interview*. Florida: HBJ Publ. P. 204-216 (13 pages) (PDF, Blackboard)

Pink S. 2001. The visual in ethnography - video, culture and individuals. In *Doing Visual Ethnography*. London: Sage. P. 17-29 (13 pages) (Self Copy)

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