



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

SW2250 Supervision in Psychosocial Work, 45 higher education credits *Second Cycle*

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by the Faculty of Social Sciences Board.

Field of education: Social Sciences 40 % and Care 60 %

Department: Department of Social Work

Position in the educational system

A single subject course at second cycle level.

Main field

Social work

Continuation

AXX, Second cycle level

The course is not classified

Entry requirements

The course requirements are:

- Degree of Bachelor of Science in Social Work or the equivalent
- courses in social work comprising at least 45 higher education credits at second cycle level or other higher education that can be regarded as being equivalent (e.g. 45 credits of psychotherapy education)
- at least five years of professional experience of psychosocial work
- undergone individual therapy, the equivalent of at least 40 hours, or not less than 80 hours in group therapy
- experience of being supervised

A prerequisite for participating in the course is that supervision of staff within the field of psychosocial work is done parallel with the course. At the start of the course, only one such supervision task is required but before the third term of the course starts, each course participant must have taken on another task. (See the special memorandum for guidelines on what kind of tasks can be approved as tasks during the study period).

Learning outcomes

After passing the course, students should be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding of different theoretical perspectives that are relevant for supervision in psychosocial work
- demonstrate through knowledge of different methods and techniques that are relevant for supervision in psychosocial work on the basis of research and proven experience.
- demonstrate knowledge of theories and methods for learning and communication
- demonstrate knowledge of the significance of an organisation and of leadership for supervision and professional development

Skills and abilities

- independently reflect on and apply different theoretical perspectives and methods that are relevant for supervision in psychosocial work
- understand and analyse the importance of a contract for a therapeutic alliance and supervision relationship
- understand and relate to the supervisees' different styles of learning and communication
- give an account of and analyse the supervision process
- identify and understand the significance of culture, gender, class and ethnicity in the supervision process
- identify, analyse and apply aspects of ethics and power that are relevant for supervision
- create, develop, maintain and conclude professional supervision relationships
- identify and handle conflicts at individual and organisational level
- account for and explain the significance of supervision and the role of the supervisor for the supervisee's professional and personal development
- support the supervisees in their development of a professional identity

Values and attitude

- assess and decide on theories, methods and interventions in different forms of supervision and supervision contexts
- on the basis of the role of supervisor, demonstrate insight into the significance of collaboration with an organisation's management
- demonstrate a deeper ability to a professional, ethical and empathetic approach to the supervisees
- have acquired increased self-awareness and professionalism in the role of supervisor
- identify one's personal needs for further knowledge of supervision and continually develop his/her supervisory skills
- demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects in research and development work in the field

After completing the course, the student will be fully competent to give supervision in psychosocial work.

Course content

The course covers different theoretical and practical perspectives of supervision in psychosocial work. After an introductory overview of the history, definitions and limitations of supervision in psychosocial work in relation to other supervision specialities and psychotherapy, the following components are addressed at a deeper level:

1. *Theory and methodology I* (15 higher education credits)

- the theories and terms of supervision in general and in particular supervision in

psychosocial work

- similarities, differences and limitations to other related terms such as coaching, consultation, team supervision, manager supervision etc.
 - supervision methodology: how to supervise, the objectives of supervision, the role of the supervisor and the supervisee, task and responsibility
 - communication, styles of learning and their significance for supervision
 - structure, process and orientation of the supervision
2. *Theory and methodology II* (15 higher education credits)
 - integration of theoretical knowledge and practical action in concrete supervision situations
 - group-theory perspectives and group-dynamic factors in supervision and metasupervision
 - psychodynamic factors in psychosocial work and supervision
 - the significance of an organisation and leadership for the supervision process
 - cooperation and conflict theories
 - power and intersectionality and their significance for psychosocial work and supervision
 3. *Theory and methodology III* (7.5 higher education credits)
 - the problems of separation
 - the completion and evaluation of supervision
 - reflection on one's personal style/model of supervision
 4. *Paper* (7.5 higher education credits)
 - scientific theory and method
 - ethical issues

Components 1 and 2 correspond to the first two terms of the course. Components 3 and 4 are done during term three.

The course's theoretical content is processed and integrated through supervision of the student's own supervision which is done continually in smaller groups during the third term of the course.

Forms of teaching

The teaching consists of lectures and literature seminars. Parallel, supervision of the student's own supervision is given, where the knowledge acquired during the course is used in practice and integrated.

Language: Swedish

Assessment

To pass the supervision component, each course participant must supervise at least two different groups (or alternatively one group and one individual) within the field of psychosocial work. In addition, the student must be present and actively participate in metasupervision, and contribute to a constructive supervision situation.

Recording and checking different aspects of the student's supervision tasks are done by the

respective metasupervisor within the framework metasupervision. The metasupervisor continually communicates his/her assessment to the student regarding the student's ability to give supervision.

The metasupervisors and the course coordinator form a supervision team that meets at least twice a term where the students' supervision is reported and discussed in order to reach a uniform assessment.

If there is conflict or doubts about whether a student is suitable, competent, given a pass or not, or has difficulties cooperating when giving supervision or in a group situation, the metasupervisor must inform the course coordinator. Conflicts that arise are to be dealt with at the supervisor conference.

A student who has failed shall be given the opportunity to give additional supervision at the next course.

To pass the course's theoretical parts, active participation in the literature seminars is required and the student must have led at least one literature seminar.

To pass the course as a whole, the paper must also have been passed and discussed at a seminar.

The student must be given the opportunity to do at least one resit examination within one year after the start of the course. After that, resits can be done in conjunction with ordinary examinations.

Students who have failed the same exam twice are entitled to change examiner, if practically possible. Any such request must be directed to the department and must be made in writing.

If a course is no longer offered or has undergone major changes, the student should be guaranteed access to at least three exam opportunities (including the ordinary examination) for a period of at least one year on the basis of the course's previous structure.

Grades

The grades for the course are Pass with credit (VG), Pass (G) or Fail (U). To gain a Pass (G), all the intended learning outcomes stated above must have been fulfilled which means that the student must have passed all the parts/components of the course. A Pass with credit (VG) will be awarded if the paper lives up to that grade, i.e. the student has demonstrated an independent and good analytical ability, and the paper fulfils the high demands made on structure, language and presentation.

Course evaluation

The course is evaluated in writing using a special evaluation protocol at the end of the course. Changes to the content, literature and pedagogics of the course will be presented at the next course introduction.