Reflective Processes in Social Work (5 ects) PhD course.

FACTS

Course code: PHD301
Credits (ECTS): 5 credits
Number of semesters: 1
Course and exam semester: Autumn (first time 2018)
Grade: Pass or Fail. A pass is equivalent to the grade B or better.
Language of instruction: English and/or Norwegian depending on course participants
Offered by: Faculty of Social Sciences

Introduction

Social work develops within local, national and global contexts. Reflectivity is to see and understand oneself within a context. Through this course students will reflect and theorize social workers understanding of her/himself and their practices. Students will reveal their subjectivity related to background, professional position and current PhD project.

Content and objectives

Reflectivity in Social Work will be emphasized through discursive, ethical, narrative and critical processes. The aim of the course is to enable participants to strengthen their critical reflections and to increase understanding of situational and contextual practices. To enhance reflective processes the course will provide knowledge about ethical dimensions in Social Work, professional discretion, different discourses and narrative approaches.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge:
Knowledge at the most advanced frontier of the discursive, ethical, narrative and critical processes in Social Work.

Skills:
Through reflective processes contribute to the identification and to analyze challenges in Social Work.

Competences:
To demonstrate substantial scholarly and professional integrity and sustained commitment to the development of new ideas or processes at the forefront of Social Work Research.
Study Methods

Lectures, seminars, group work and individual work – adapted to different modes of study.

Coursework requirements

Students need to attend a one week on-campus study programme.

Assessment methods and criteria

Course paper approximately 5000 words.

Literature (in progress):


The online version of this article can be found at: http://aff.sagepub.com/content/28/2/116
Program: Week 37 (10th – 14th September)

Monday 10th:
Opening, course introduction, paper writing etc 13.15-14.00
14.15- 17.00: Professor Karen Healy, University of Queensland, Australia: Social Work Discourses

Tuesday 11th:
12.15-16.00: Associate professor Randi Kroken, University of Agder & Professor Siv Oltedal, University of Stavanger: Narrative Processes in Social Work

Wednesday 12th:
9.15-11.30: Professor Tor Claussen, University of Stavanger: Professional discretion in Social Work
12.15-16.00: Professor Solveig B. Eide, University of Agder: Ethical dimensions in Social Work

Thursday 13th:
9.15-11.30: Professor Vishanthie Sewpaul, University of KwaZuluNatal, South Africa: Global Standards in Social Work Ethics and Ethical Challenges
12.15-16.00: Seminar and group work on critical incidents

Friday 14th: 9.15- 11.30: Professor Vishanthie Sewpaul: Narratives and intersectionality
12.15-13.00: Summing up

Academic profiles:

Karen Healy is a guest professor at the University of Stavanger and a Professor of Social Work at the University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia. Her research focuses on promoting the social inclusion of vulnerable children, young people and families. She has written several books and numerous articles on social work practice including "Social Work Theories in Context: Creating Frameworks for Practice" which has been translated into several languages. Professor Healy currently serves as the National President of the Australian Association of Social Workers and is a National Director of The Benevolent Society which is Australia's oldest not-for-profit organisation.

Siv Oltedal is a professor of Social Work at the University of Stavanger. Her research concerns social work with families in different contexts, social work processes, gender and studies of the relationship between professionals and users at Norwegian Welfare Services. She has published textbooks on social work theories and institutional communication. Her
profile on international research and educational collaboration includes Cuba, Chile, Malawi, South Africa, Russia, USA, Canada, Australia and the Nordic countries.

**Tor Claussen** is a professor of Philosophy and Social Science at the University of Stavanger. His recent research concerns founders and classics in philosophy and social science/social work. Additionally, current research emphasis is on professional discretion in welfare services with focus on “Street-Level Bureaucracy”. Empirical research connects with issues in work life and organizations concerning both private and public sector. He has published several books, articles, special issues and research reports within these topics.

**Vishanthie Sewpaul** was a Professor in the College of Education, Zayed University, and a Senior Professor at the University of KwaZulu Natal, South Africa (UKZN), where she remains an Emeritus Professor. She occupies a Professor II position at University of Stavanger. She has extensive teaching and research supervision experience; is widely published; and has delivered numerous special lectures, and keynote and plenary addresses in many countries. Social work research, practice and teaching with a focus on ethics, social justice, human rights and emancipatory education remain her passion.

**Randi Kroken** is associated professor of Social Work at University of Agder. Her PhD (2012) is about Mangement and Responsibility. A casestudy of child welfare workers scope of action and work division within the welfare state (Norwegian: *Forvandling av ansvar. En utvidet casestudie av barnevernarbeideres handlingsbetingelser i velferdsstaten*).

**Solveig Botnen Eide** is professor of Social Work Ethics at the University of Agder. Her research concerns with values in social work, ethical challenges in practical social work and professional ethics. Her work is characterized by a phenomenological approach. She has published several scientific books and articles.