



# UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG

## FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

### **SW2231, Children in Adverse Life Situations. Social Work with Children at Risk and Their Families, 15,0 higher education credits** Barn i utsatta livssituationer. Socialt arbete med utsatta barn och deras familjer, 15.0 högskolepoäng

*Second Cycle*

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#### **1. Confirmation**

The course syllabus was confirmed by Faculty of Social Sciences on 2009-10-13 to be valid from 2010-01-10.

*Field of education:* Social Sciences 100 %

*Department:* Department of Social Work

#### **2. Position in the educational system**

*Main field of studies*

Social Work

*Specialization*

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

#### **3. Entry requirements**

To be eligible for the course, Children in Adverse Life Situations; Social Work with Children at Risk and Their Families, 15 higher education credits, a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work, or in related topics and proficiency in English are required. Students at the Second Cycle International Post-graduate Programme on Family-related Social Work and Policies in Europe are guaranteed to be admitted to the course.

#### **4. Course content**

The course deals with the following topics:

- Theories and methods in social work with children in adverse life situations and their families.
- Contemporary research related to children at risk and their families.
- The life situations of children at risk in relation to issues of power, socio-economical conditions, physical and mental health, gender and ethnicity.
- Children's position in society and in the family.

- The role of the social worker in child protection matters.
- Children's rights issues.

## 5. Learning outcomes

After completion of the course the student is expected to

### 1. Knowledge and Understanding

have achieved a deeper knowledge and understanding of social work with children in adverse life situations and their families

have achieved deeper knowledge and understanding about different theories and methods within the area of social work with children at risk and their families.

### 2. Skills and Abilities

be able to critically reflect on as well as apply different theoretical perspectives relevant to social work with children at risk and their families

be able to assess and critically reflect on research concerning social work with children at risk and their families

be able to account for, analyse and apply knowledge of children's position in the family and in the society, as well as children's participating processes in decisions concerning their life situations

be able to account for, analyse and apply knowledge of children exposed to neglect, physical and sexual abuse and sexual exploitation

be able to account for, analyse and apply, as well as critically reflect upon, knowledge of specific methods and techniques developed within the area of social work with children and families

be able to account for and critically reflect upon the position of the social worker as well as the collaboration with other professionals working with children in adverse life situations and their families

### 3. Judgement and Approach

develop further their own values and attitudes in relation to the area of social work.

develop further knowledge about children's rights issues in relation to professional social work.

## 6. Literature

See appendix.

## 7. Assessment

The students are assessed by independent work both individually and in small groups that will be assessed accordingly. The final examination consists of an individual home examination.

A student who has failed a test twice has the right to change examiners, if it is possible. A written application should be sent to the Department.

## 8. Grading scale

The grading scale comprises Fail (U), Pass (G), Pass with Distinction (VG).

## **9. Course evaluation**

The course director guarantees that the evaluation is considered regularly and systematically at the end of the course.

## **10. Additional information**

Language of instruction: English.

The course includes lectures, independent and teacher supported group work and seminars. The course will be carried out as an intensive course. During the first week of the course, students will be able to follow the course from their home countries. During the second and third weeks, there will be a high degree of teacher-supported education. This syllabus is a translation.



# UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG

Department of Social Work

## SW2231, Children in Adverse Life Situations: Social Work with Children at Risk and Their Families, 15 higher education credits

Second Cycle

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Established by the Board of Department 8 May 2014, starting from autumn semester 2014.

Barn, Ravinder (2007): "Race', Ethnicity and Child Welfare: A Fine Balancing Act" in *British Journal of Social Work* 38(8). pp 1425-1434. 9 p.

<http://bjsw.oxfordjournals.org/content/37/8/1425.abstract>

Furlong, Andy & Cartmel, Fred (2007): *Young people and social change: new perspectives*. Buckingham: Open University Press. 182 p.

George, Carol & Solomon, Judith (2008): "Attachment and Caregiving: the Caregiving Behavioural System" in Cassidy, Jude & Shaver, Philip R. (2008): *Handbook of attachment: theory, research, and clinical applications*. New York: Guilford Publications. pp 649-670. 21 p.

Gilbert, Neil, Parton, Nigel & Skivenes, Marit (2011): *Child protection systems: international trends and orientations*. New York: Oxford University Press. 273 p.

Goldson, Barry (2000): "'Children in need' or 'young offenders'? Hardening ideology, organizational change and new challenges for social work with children in trouble" in *Child & Family* 5(3). pp 255-265. 10 p. <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1046/j.1365-2206.2000.00161.x/abstract>

Grødem, Anne Skevik (2009): "The impact of poverty and immigrant background on children's school satisfaction: evidence from Norway" in *International Journal of Social Welfare* 18(2). pp 193-201. 8 p. <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1468-2397.2008.00594.x/abstract>

Healy, Karen (1998): "Participation and Child Protection: The Importance of Context" in *British Journal of Social Work* 28(6). pp 897-914. 17 p. <http://bjsw.oxfordjournals.org/content/28/6/897.abstract>

Healy, Lynne M. (2007): "Universalism and cultural relativism in social work ethics" in *International Social Work* 50(1). pp 11-26. 15 p. <http://isw.sagepub.com/content/50/1/11.abstract>

Holmes, Dave (2002): "Police and pastoral power: governmentality and correctional forensic psychiatric nursing" in *Nursing Inquiry* 9(2). pp 84-92. 8 p. <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1046/j.1440-1800.2002.00134.x/abstract>

Howe, David (2005): *Child abuse and neglect: attachment, development and intervention*. Basingstoke: Plagrave Macmillan. 315 p.

Höjer, Ingrid (2009): "Birth parent's perception of sharing the care of their child with foster parents" in *Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies: An International Interdisciplinary Journal of Research, Policy and Care* 4(2). pp 161-168. 7 p. <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/17450120903012941#.U1-M4hC8xnU>

Johansson, Ing-Marie (2013): "The rights of the child and ethnic minority families in Sweden" in *China Journal of Social Work* 6(3). pp 262-275. 13 p.

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/17525098.2013.840797#.U1-O2hC8xnU>

Munro, Eileen (2008): *Effective child protection*. London: Sage. 183 p.

Slade, Arietta (2005): "Parental reflective functioning: An introduction" in *Attachment & Human Development* 7(3). pp 269-281. 12 p.

[http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/14616730500245906?url\\_ver=Z39.88-2003&rfr\\_id=ori:rid:crossref.org&rfr\\_dat=cr\\_pub%3dpubmed#.U1-P7xC8xnU](http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/14616730500245906?url_ver=Z39.88-2003&rfr_id=ori:rid:crossref.org&rfr_dat=cr_pub%3dpubmed#.U1-P7xC8xnU)

Stein, Mike & Munro, Emily (2008): *Young people's transitions from care to adulthood: international research and practice*. London: Jessica Kingsley. 320 p.

Tew, Jerry (2006): "Understanding Power and Powerlessness: Towards a Framework for Emancipatory Practice in Social Work" in *Journal of Social Work* 6(1). pp 33-51. 18 p.

<http://jsw.sagepub.com/content/6/1/33.abstract>

Trevithick, Pamela (2008): "Revisiting the Knowledge Base of Social Work: A Framework for Practice" in *British Journal of Social Work* 38(6). pp 1212-1237. 25 p.

<http://bjsw.oxfordjournals.org/content/38/6/1212.abstract>

Welbourne, Penelope (2012): *Social work with children and families: developing advanced practice*. New York: Routledge. 271 p.

Additional literature, such as reports and articles connected to lecturer's presentations, will also be presented.