

A. Syllabus for RÄSM02, Sociology of Law: Master's Thesis, 30 credits.

30 credits, full-time

The syllabus was approved by the Division of Sociology of Law
The course was adopted by the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences
This syllabus is valid from the spring semester of 2013.

B. General information

The course is a second cycle course in Sociology of Law. The course is offered as part of the Master of Science in Social Sciences and also as a freestanding course. The language of instruction is English.

C. Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

On completion of the course students shall be able to demonstrate

- a broad knowledge of the discipline of sociology of law
- substantially specialised knowledge of the selected subject of research for the degree project from within the discipline of sociology of law
- in-depth insight into research and development work pertaining to the discipline of sociology of law
- in-depth knowledge in methods relevant to sociology of law
- knowledge and understanding of scholarly communication

Competence and skills

On completion of the course students shall be able to demonstrate

- an ability to assess and deal with complex phenomena and issues pertaining to the sociology of law, even with limited information
- an ability to plan and, using appropriate methods, undertake an advanced study in the sociology of law within predetermined time frames and so contribute to the formation of knowledge in the sociology of law
- an ability in speech and writing both nationally and internationally to report research results clearly and discuss their conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based
- an ability to independently monitor knowledge development in the sociology of law
- an ability to summarise, critically review, assess and give constructive feedback on the research processes and completed work of others
- the proficiency required to participate in research and development work within the field of sociology of law, or to work independently in some other qualified capacity

Judgement and approach

On completion of the course students shall be able to demonstrate

- an ability to make assessments informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues and also to demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development in general and in the field of sociology of law in particular
- insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, especially in the sociology of law, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how knowledge, especially in the sociology of law, is used
- an ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for their ongoing learning

D. Course content

The course involves students independently designing and completing a research project within the discipline of sociology of law. The student is to identify a relevant issue from within the discipline, select methods, collect and process empirical material, select theoretical points of departure and analyse this material and present his/her findings in both written and oral form. The degree project is carried out under the supervision of a tutor who is assigned to the student by the Division of Sociology of Law. The supervisor advises the student and gives his/her viewpoints on the planning of the project, its execution and the presentation of its findings. At the same time, however, the work is an independent project and the student him/herself is responsible for the completion of the project.

E. Teaching and assessment

The student is entitled to supervision during the work on the project. The supervisor offers advice and views on the design of the degree project. The student him/herself is responsible for the completion of the project.

The course is a distance-learning course. Supervision, communication and examination take place on the online course platform. The completed degree project is reviewed and discussed at an assessed seminar on the course platform.

The assessment is primarily based on the degree project but to some extent on the defence of the student's own project and on the student's critical review of another student's project.

F. Grades

The grades awarded are A, B, C, D, E or Fail. The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. The grade for a non-passing result is Fail.

The student's performance is assessed with reference to the learning outcomes of the course stated in section C. The originality and difficulty of the research assignment also contribute to the grade. For the grade of E the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of D the student must show satisfactory results. For the grade of C the student must show good results. For the grade of B the student must show very good results. For the grade of A the student

must show excellent results. For the grade of Fail the student must have shown unacceptable results.

G. Admission requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must meet basic entry requirements and have a Bachelor's degree in Sociology of Law, or the equivalent, and at least 30 second-cycle credit in sociology of law theory or the equivalent and at least 30 second-cycle credits in social science methodology and/or the theory of science.

H. Required reading

Literature is chosen in consultation with the supervisor.