

Children's Rights

Barns rättigheter

7.5 credits

Programme course

736A30

Valid from: 2022 Spring semester

Determined by	Main field of study	
The Quality Board at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences	Child Studies	
Date determined	Course level	Progressive specialisation
2014-02-14	Second cycle	A1N
Revised by	Disciplinary domain	
Course and Programme Syllabus Board at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences	Social sciences	
Revision date	Subject group	
2021-10-15	Child and Youth Education and Care	
Offered first time	Offered for the last time	
Spring semester 2015		
Department	Replaced by	
Institutionen för Tema		

Course offered for

- Master's Programme in Child Studies

Entry requirements

- Bachelor's degree equivalent to a Swedish Kandidatexamen within the humanities, social sciences or the behavioral sciences with a major relevant to the programme.
Examples of fields:
 - anthropology
 - education
 - history
 - communication studies
 - media studies
 - language studies
 - psychology
 - social work
 - sociology
 - political scienceor equivalent
- English corresponding to the level of English in Swedish upper secondary education (English 6/B)
(Exemption from Swedish)

Intended learning outcomes

After completion of the course, the student should on an advanced level be able to:

- compare various categories of children's rights;
- account for different philosophical arguments in relation to children's rights;
- critically review children's rights in relation to perspectives of universality and cultural relativism;
- analyse the ways in which children's rights may be at conflict with the interests of other groups;
- analyse the ways in which children's rights can be assigned varying meanings by different groups and in various contexts.

Course content

The introduction to the course will give a historical background to today's international agreements on children's rights, as well as identify and elaborate on the differences between various categories of children's rights. Furthermore, the course provides a survey of various theories on rights and the philosophical arguments in favour of and against the special rights of children. The course comprises a thorough discussion of how children's rights are related to other closely related concepts such as children's needs, the best interest of the child, children's participation and children's perspectives. All this is dealt with in relation to specific contexts such as education or the family, and from the perspective of specific articles in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Furthermore, the course will relate the existence of international conventions on children's rights to a broader discussion on universalism and cultural relativism, and thus touch upon the criticism that can be levied upon a universal definition of children's rights and how such criticism may be dealt with. Finally, the course addresses the question of in what ways the best interests of the child may be at conflict with the interests of other groups as well as the ways in which various groups can define "the best interests of the child" in different ways.

Teaching and working methods

Lectures and related discussions take place on campus as well as online on an interactive learning platform. In addition to lectures there are seminars, workshops, and group work online as well as on campus. Between the lectures and the seminars the students independently study the course literature, complete the individual and group assignments, and communicate with other students online. Examining seminars, workshops and group exercises are compulsory.

The student must have access to e-mail and Internet. The course is presented in various multi-media formats. In order to guarantee a positive learning situation online, and, in order for the student to be able to actively participate in the course and communicate with fellow students and the teacher, it is therefore important that the student have access to the correct hard- and software. Information concerning the specifications of the equipment necessary for the course can be found in the study guide.

English is the language of instruction.

Examination

The examinations consist of active participation in seminars, workshops and group assignments on campus and online, as well as through individual written assignments submitted online. Detailed information on the examinations can be found in the study guide.

If special circumstances prevail, and if it is possible with consideration of the nature of the compulsory component, the examiner may decide to replace the compulsory component with another equivalent component.

If the LiU coordinator for students with disabilities has granted a student the right to an adapted examination for a written examination in an examination hall, the student has the right to it.

If the coordinator has recommended for the student an adapted examination or alternative form of examination, the examiner may grant this if the examiner assesses that it is possible, based on consideration of the course objectives.

An examiner may also decide that an adapted examination or alternative form of examination if the examiner assessed that special circumstances prevail, and the examiner assesses that it is possible while maintaining the objectives of the course.

Students failing an exam covering either the entire course or part of the course twice are entitled to have a new examiner appointed for the reexamination.

Students who have passed an examination may not retake it in order to improve their grades.

Grades

ECTS, EC

Other information

Planning and implementation of a course must take its starting point in the wording of the syllabus. The course evaluation included in each course must therefore take up the question how well the course agrees with the syllabus.

The course is carried out in such a way that both men's and women's experience and knowledge is made visible and developed.

If special circumstances prevail, the vice-chancellor may in a special decision specify the preconditions for temporary deviations from this course syllabus, and delegate the right to take such decisions.