

Inequality and Segregation: Theory and Measurement

Ojämlighet och segregation: Teorier och mått
7.5 credits

Single subject and programme course

771A27

Valid from: 2019 Autumn semester

Determined by	Main field of study	
Course and Programme Syllabus Board at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences	Computational Social Science	
Date determined	Course level	Progressive specialisation
2018-10-08	Second cycle	A1F
Revised by	Disciplinary domain	
	Social sciences	
Revision date	Subject group	
	Other Subjects within Social Science	
Offered first time	Offered for the last time	
Autumn semester 2019		
Department	Replaced by	
Institutionen för ekonomisk och industriell utveckling		

Course offered for

- Master's Programme in Computational Social Science

Entry requirements

- Bachelor's degree equivalent to a Swedish Kandidatexamen within the humanities, social-, cultural-, behavioural-, natural-, computer-, or engineering- sciences
- English corresponding to the level of English in Swedish upper secondary education (English 6/B)
- 45 ECTS credits completed in Computational Social Science (Exemption from Swedish)

Intended learning outcomes

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

- explain the ideal properties of segregation and inequality measures
- distinguish different dimensions of segregation, identify measures associated with these dimensions, and evaluate their relevance for analysing segregation across different organizational units
- use computational methods to calculate common measures of inequality and segregation using empirical data and compare measures across places and times
- assess the relative contributions of various mechanisms implicated in inequality and segregation dynamics
- critically examine research on resource inequalities and various forms of segregation
- integrate theories of segregation and inequality and evaluate interrelationships between the two
- formulate research questions of relevance to contemporary research on segregation and inequality

Course content

This course engages with classical and contemporary research on inequality and segregation. The first part of the course explores the concepts and principles of segregation and inequality measurement. Issues related to comparisons across places and times are discussed. During computer laboratories, measures of inequality and segregation are calculated using empirical data and compared. The second part of the course reviews, evaluates, and synthesizes theories positing generative mechanisms underpinning segregation and inequality dynamics. Finally, the connection between inequality and segregation is explored. Special attention is paid to computational methods and their explanatory role in segregation and inequality research.

Teaching and working methods

The teaching consists of readings, lectures, seminars, and interactive computer labs. Homework and independent studies are a necessary complement to the course.

Language of instruction: English.

Examination

The course is examined through written assignments, completed computer laboratories, and a final individual written assignment. Detailed information about the examination can be found in the course's 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 conducted in such a way that there are equal opportunities with regard to sex, transgender identity or expression, ethnicity, religion or other belief, disability, sexual orientation and age.

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.

About teaching and examination language

The teaching language is presented in the Overview tab for each course. The examination language relates to the teaching language as follows:

- If teaching language is “Swedish”, the course as a whole could be given in Swedish, or partly, or as a whole, in English. Examination language is Swedish, but parts of the examination can be in English.
- If teaching language is “English”, the course as a whole is taught in English. Examination language is English.
- If teaching language is “Swedish/English”, the course as a whole will be taught in English if students without prior knowledge of the Swedish language participate. Examination language is Swedish or English depending on teaching language.