

Contemporary Research in Computational Social Science I

Samtida forskning i Computational Social Science I
7.5 credits

Programme course

771A46

Valid from: 2025 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
2025-04-03	Second cycle	A1N
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 2025		
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 one of the following subject areas:
 - humanities
 - cultural studies
 - social sciences
 - behavioural sciences
 - natural sciences
 - computer sciences
 - engineering-sciencesor equivalent
- English corresponding to the level of English in Swedish upper secondary education (English 6)
- Exemption from Swedish

Intended learning outcomes

After completing the course, the advanced level student should be able to:

- conduct a critical analysis of contemporary issues in computational social sciences from methodological and theoretical perspectives
- critically analyze specific problems in computational social sciences and propose alternative theoretical and empirical approaches
- connect current research questions to specific scientific discussions and research literature in the field of computational social sciences

Course content

This course develops knowledge of computational and quantitative approaches to contemporary social scientific research problems. This is accomplished through the presentation and critical discussion of ongoing and novel research. Central themes of the course concern the application of theories and concepts to the study of issues in social scientific research; the measurement of phenomena and behaviors at the micro-, meso-, and macro-levels of social organization; and the use of different computational approaches and methods for concrete empirical investigations into social processes.

Teaching and working methods

The teaching consists of lectures, seminars, and independent study.

Language of instruction: English.

Examination

The course is examined through

- individual written assignments, grading scale: EC

The examination can give a total of 100 course credits. For a passing final grade (E) on the course, all individual written assignments corresponding to 40 course credits are required. For a higher final grade, the following are required:

For a final grade D, at least 52 course credits are also required

For a final grade C, at least 64 course credits are also required

For a final grade B, at least 76 course credits are also required

For a final grade A, at least 88 course credits are also required

Detailed information about the examination 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 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.