

Study Board Meeting Sociology



MØDEREFERAT

22. MAJ 2025

Forum Study Board Meeting Sociology

Møde afholdt 22. maj 2025

Sted 16.1.62

Minutes Taker Jeanette Sporon-Fiedler

Present

Lasse Suonperä Liebst, Jonas Toubøl, Mengni Chen, Pia Cecilie Enevoldsen, Rebekka Eltang Lynbech, Christian Fischer Krarup, Halfdan Temple (Alternate), Sidsel Kirstine Harder

Guests

Thea Lytsen, Hanne Kraak and Troels Baagland

Absent

Signe Staun Kelly

Campusadministration Søndre
Uddannelse
Uddannelsesudvikling og
kvalitetssikring

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Uddannelsespartner for Sociologi

Agenda

- Ad 1) Approval of the agenda (2 min.)
- Ad 2) Approval of minutes from last meeting (2 min.)
- Ad 3) Planning of future meetings (5 min.)
- Ad 4) Nomination of teachers for the Teacher's Award (10 min.)
- Ad 5) Discussion: Feedback culture (10 min.): Have students shown improved utilization of teachers' office hours? Does a myth persist among students that they must file a complaint to receive feedback on exams?

- Ad 6) Petitem–pensum rules (15 min.)
- A. Discussion: Clarification of rules regarding the pensum and petitem. Would a simpler formulation suffice? “The student must cite at least 25% of the pensum references, and for every two pensum references, at least one petitem reference must be cited.” Plus: An example should be included in the online student exam guide.
- B. Proposal: Introduce a distinction between “pensum-only” and “with-petitem” exams. For pensum-only exams, students must use at least 25% of the syllabus. For with-petitem exams, the current or revised pensum-petitem rule applies.
- C. Proposal: Book chapters—whether in books or anthologies—count as one reference.
- Ad 7) Proposal: Revise the master thesis length from the current 70 pages + 35 pages per additional student to 60 pages + 15 pages per additional student (10 min.)
- Ad 8) Discussion: Formation of project groups (15 min.) - juni**
- Ad 9) Proposal: Introduce a new type of thesis: the article-based thesis. (10 min.)
- o The scientific article must be written in the style and format of a sociological journal article. If necessary, an appendix may be included to elaborate on methodology and provide supplementary analyses. The appendix forms part of the basis for assessment.
 - o The article-based thesis is subject to the same overall page limit as a traditional thesis (i.e., 60 pages + 15 pages). However, the article itself should be no more than 25 pages long; the remaining pages may be used for the appendix, if needed.
 - o This format is allowed for one or two students only.
- Ad 10) Update from the study advisory service (5 min.)
- Ad 11) Update from the students (10 min.)
- Ad 12) Any other business
- Next meeting topic: Science ethics and data security
 - New Rules of Procedure

Minutes

1. The Agenda was approved.
2. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved without comments.

3. Next Study Board meeting: June 20, 10:00–12:00 (Time changed to 08:00–10:00).

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4. Teacher's award:

Mengni Chen won the vote with 7 votes. Christian Borch and Lasse Suonperä Liebst each received 1 vote.

5. Proposal to change the feedback culture and make it a more integrated part of the semester. There are challenges with lack of visible office hours and inconsistent availability of lecturers, especially early in the semester. It is therefore especially important that office hours are clearly posted on websites or office doors. The RUS trip and communication from the student council can be used to inform new students about how to use office hours. Feedback should be provided continuously and not only in response to complaints, and it should be promoted as an ongoing process.
6. Students raised concerns that the requirements for the petitum (exam syllabus declaration) can be difficult to meet in thematic courses and in small study groups. Issues also arise when lecturers are unfamiliar with the rules and are therefore unable to communicate them properly. Students need a fixed page count to refer to as the petitum. syllabus.

Proposal A: adopted

Proposal B: adopted

Proposal C: adopted

The rules should be included in an onboarding package for new lecturers.

7. Agreement that theses and bachelor projects should be shorter. Revised length: 15 ECTS = 30 standard pages (BA), 30 ECTS = 60 standard pages (MA).

8. This item was postponed to the June meeting.

9. Discussion on introducing an article-based master's thesis in Sociology. Students generally agreed but raised concerns about the definition of academic goals and the grading process. Training in academic article writing should be offered – possibly through a preparatory course. It is also important that the external examiners are properly informed and that assessment criteria are clear for both assessors and students.

The decision will be further evaluated by the study administration at the next meeting.

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10. No news from the Study Advisory Service.
11. No news from the students.
12. Items under “Any Other Business” were postponed to the next meeting.