



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Department of Sociology

### **A. Reading course in *Theorizing care: Sociological perspectives* (PhD level)**

A third level (PhD) “reading course” does not involve any teaching and typically only has one or a few participants taking part in the course. A reading course for 7.5 credits should cover an ambitious and demanding reading material, which exact page number can vary depending on the nature of texts (i.e., heavy dominance of research articles). The Department of Sociology offer reading courses to its PhD students on areas that cover either a specific topic of high relevance for the PhD thesis, or a specific area of research expertise in the Department. This course belongs to the latter category.

This course has been reviewed by the Director of graduate studies and the Deputy Head of Department February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.

### **B. Course Details, Assessment, Grades**

This course is offered by Sara Eldén upon demand as a reading course on the readings listed under F, below. There is no teaching. The course is examined on the basis of a written paper (in English or Swedish) of 10–15 pages and/or an oral examination.

The grades for the course are awarded as Pass or Fail. To receive a Pass, the student must fulfil the learning outcomes specified for the course and demonstrate an independent, reflective, well-informed and critical relationship to the issues presented in the course

### **C. Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the course the student should be able to:

- 1) Summarize the main outlines of the research field covered in the reading material
- 2) Critically examine contributions to the relevant research field
- 3) Apply some of the ideas in the literature to a research problem

### **D. Course content**

The aim of this course is to provide advanced knowledge of sociological theorizing on care. The purpose of the course is to develop students’ knowledge and understanding of theoretical developments in classical and contemporary sociological theories, central concepts, and research on care. The literature covers both classical and more recent theoretical debates in the field.

In addition to the mandatory readings, the student chooses relevant literature corresponding with one’s interest, either chosen from the elective readings listed below, or other suggested readings.

### **E. Admission Requirements**

Applicants must be admitted to the Ph.D. program at the Department of Sociology, Lund University, or be accepted as a visiting student to that program.

## F. Course Literature

Mandatory readings are marked with \*, the rest is elective.

### Care and political economy

- \*Folbre, N. (2021). *The Rise and Decline of Patriarchal Systems: An Intersectional Political Economy*. 320 p.
- \*Fraser, N. "Contradictions of Capital and Care." *New Left Review*, vol. 100, no. 99, manchesteropenhive.com, 1 Aug. 2016, p. 99–117. 18p.
- \*Mahon, R., Robinson, F. & Tronto, J. (Eds.). (2011). *Feminist Ethics and Social Policy: Towards a New Global Political Economy of Care*. 244 p.
- \*Tronto, J. (2013). *Caring Democracy*. 190 p.
- Tronto, J. (2005). An Ethic of Care. In A. E. Cudd and R. O. Andreasen (Eds.), *Feminist Theory: A Philosophical Anthology* (pp. 251–262). Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing. 11 p.
- Tronto, J. (2011). A Feminist Democratic Ethics of Care and Global Care Workers: Citizenship and Responsibility. In R. Mahon, F. Robinson, & J. Tronto (Eds.), *Feminist Ethics and Social Policy: Towards a New Global Political Economy of Care* (pp.162–177). 15 p.
- Sainsbury, Diane (2013) Gender, Care, and Welfare. In *The Oxford Handbook of Gender and Politics*. <https://academic.oup.com/edited-volume/34874> (17 pages)

(772p mandatory)

### Family and Care

- DeVault, M. (1991) *Feeding the family: The social organization of caring as gendered work*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (excerpts, approx. 50 p.)
- \*Graham, H. (1983) Caring: A labour of love, i J. Finch & D. Groves (red.) *A labour of love: Women, work and caring*. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, p. 13–30. 7 p.
- \*Graham, H. (1991) The concept of caring in feminist research: The case of domestic service. *Sociology*, 25(1): 61–78. 17 p.
- \*Waerness, K. (1984). The rationality of caring. *Economic and industrial democracy*, 5(2), 185–211. 26 p.
- \*Mason, J. (1996) Gender, care and sensibility in family and kin relationships, i J. Holland and L. Atkins (red.) *Sex, sensibility and the gendered body*. London: Macmillan, s. 15–36. 21 p.
- Roberts, D. (1997) 'Spiritual and menial housework', *Yale Journal of Law and Feminism*, 9(1): 51–80. 29p.
- Doucet, A. (2023). Care is not a tally sheet: rethinking the field of gender divisions of domestic labour with care-centric conceptual narratives. *Families, Relationships and Societies*, 1–21. 20 p.

(71p mandatory)

### Care and Globalisation

- \*Ehrenreich, B. and Hochschild, A. (n.d.). *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the New Economy*. 336 p. (excerpts, approx 50 p)
- \*Baldassar, L. and Merla, L. (2017). Introduction. Transnational caregiving through the lens of circulation in Baldassar, L. and Merla, L. (eds). *Transnational Families, Migration and the Circulation of Care: Understanding Mobility and Absence in Family Life*. Routledge. 22 p.

- Tronto, J. (2002) The nanny question. *Hypatia*, 17(2): 34–61. 26 p.
- \*Lutz, H., & Palenga-Möllenbeck, E. (2012). Care workers, care drain, and care chains: Reflections on care, migration, and citizenship. *Social Politics*, 19(1), 15–37. 22 p.

(120p mandatory)

### **Care and postcolonialism**

- \*Mooten A. (2020). Toward a Postcolonial Ethics of Care?. [https://ethicsofcare.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Toward\\_a\\_Postcolonial\\_Ethics\\_of\\_Care.pdf](https://ethicsofcare.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Toward_a_Postcolonial_Ethics_of_Care.pdf). 22 p.
- \*Rughuram, R. (2012). Race and feminist care ethics: intersectionality as method. *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, 37(4), 993–1013. 20 p.

(42p mandatory)

### **Collective care**

- \*bell hooks (1993). *Sisters of the Yam: Black Women and Self- Recovery*. 184 pages (excerpts, approx 50 p).
- \*Patricia Hill Collins. (2009). *Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness, and the Politics of Empowerment*. Routledge. 283 pages (excerpts, approx 50 p)

(100p mandatory)

Total number of mandatory readings: 1105 pages.