



## MINUTES

MAY 2023

**Forum** Study Board of Sociology

**Meeting held** 2 May 2023

**Place** Room 16.1.62

**Minutes taker** Troels Claus Baagland

### Present

Mengni Chen, Jonas Toubøl, Asmus Oliver Lewis, Mira Chatterji Rosen Sørensen and Dagmar Engelbrecht Henriksen

### Guests

Merlin Schaeffer, Sofie Trappaud Scholl, Freja Kromann Schiøler, Hanne Kraak and Freja Kromann Schiøler

### Absent

Lasse Suonperä Liebst due to sabbatical leave (until April)

**1) Approval of the agenda and Minutes from 20. March 2023.**  
Approved.

**2) New Student for the Credit Transfer/Exemption Committee**  
Chatterji Rosen Sørensen is new representative in the Credit Transfer/Exemption Committee.

**3) Course Catalogue - Information about a change in the Course Catalogue/Merlin**

Janus Hansen has got new job and will leave the department. This mean Anders Blok is now the only lecturer for the course: "Environmental

Sociology and the Green Transition”. Therefore, the course-weight is reduced from 15 to 7.5 ECTS

The other elective “*Economic Sociology: Contemporary Frameworks and Applications*” offered by Janus Hansen is cancelled. Merlin pointed out a list of courses across the faculty is offered to the students - Economics is e.g. offering a course in “Economics sociology”.

Merlin said that a process of hiring 3 new assistant professors has been started. This will help with the situation.

#### **4) Ideas to meet the Challenges at Sociology/Jonatan Mizrahi-Werner**

Jonathan gave a short presentation on the challenges for Sociology and his ideas to meet these challenges. He pointed out that it is a problem with the high dropout rate and the unemployment rate are the two most pressing issues.

Jonathan suggested having more (qualitative) methods courses directed at becoming a practitioner and not a researcher. In specific he suggested offering courses in e.g., UX research, intervention design, or intelligence analysis, since this could utilize the very thorough methodological education our students have, and direct this in a more market-oriented direction.

Jonathan suggested that the department. should help in creating a student-run organization facilitating dialogue between practitioners/job market and students. This organization should arrange several meetings each semester between a group of up to 20 students and different practitioners. This could give the students opportunities to learn more about the various professions, and for the practitioner to gain new insights on their own field. This could also be a great opportunity for students to broaden their job market horizons, and for companies to get to know students from sociology. It is a problem to get student volunteers, we could ask Political science for inspiration/help.

Jonathan suggested to bridging the gap between VIPs and students by disseminating our research to them in more informal settings e.g. by having monthly lunch presentation from 12:15-13:00 in “Katedralen”, where the department provide some cake and coffee. The researchers will then do a 20-minute-long presentation on their current research, followed by 25 min to questions from the students.

Jonathan suggested addressing the high drop-out rates at the first year by making sure new students are aware of the methodological requirements. This could be done by launching information videos (3-5 minutes long) on SoMe such as Youtube and Instagram where researchers explain a

topic of interest, and how sociologists go about examining them. This could adjust the expectations among the students.

**5) Preliminary discussion about the examination rules for oral exams**

Lasse oriented about some examination cases where students had used electronic aid during an oral exam, e.g., by reading up from a Lap-top. This problem would be even more relevant regarding exams via Zoom.

The examinations rules do not have any restrictions with regard to electronic examination aid for oral exams.

Lasse said that he would suggest that the students could only bring a short paper for the examination, e.g. synopsis.

The board take the issues up Again at the next board meeting since Asmus was the only students represented at the meeting. Lasse will work on a draft for a proposal.

**6) Chat-GTP – which way forward /Merlin**

For the coming summer exam 2023 (ordinary + plus reexam) the department will adhere to the general rules defined by central UCPH. According to these rules Chat-GTP and similar AI technologies are not allowed for the exams. However, the study board belief that AI-technologies are here to stay, and therefore the students should learn to master these technologies. This also means that AI-technologies could accepted for some exams. This item will be brought up again at the next study board meeting.

**7) Information from students**

Amus said it is difficult to increase the student involvement in the Study Council (Fagrådet). It was suggested to inform the new students about the relevance of Fagrådet why it is a good thing, and why they should engage themselves in this.

**8) Information from Head of Studies/Head of Study Board**

Merlin shortly mentioned his ideas about the motivation for re-structure the specializations (fagpakker).

**9) Any Other Business**

Next meeting will take place 7. June 13:15-15:00