

PhD-DVP 901 Diaconia, Values and Professional Practice, introduction

Facts about the Course	Tuition	Professional Training
Course Code: PhD-DVP 901 Number of ECTS: 10 Available as Single Course: Velg et element. Type of Course: Compulsory Cycle: Third Cycle Year of Study Full Time: Velg et element. Part Time: Velg et element. Prerequisites:	Language of Instruction: English Campus: Oslo Semester: Velg et element. Compulsory Attendance: Yes	Professional Training: No Student Workload Scope of Tuition: 30 hours Scope of Self-Study Activities: 240 hours Total Workload: 270 hours

Course Content

This course builds upon and completes the profiling course “values and relationships in professional practice”, which is of fundamental importance in a majority of VID’s Bachelor’s and Master’s programs. It highlights the basic thinking and academic conditions related to the study of professional and diaconal practices. It emphasizes and relates values and practice to public/faith-based/third-sector health and social services. Values, ethical references, spirituality and fundamental purpose are emphasized. Further, the course frames such professional practices and values through the development of differing welfare models and increasing pluralism. Overall, the course address how professional practice is intertwined with individual and institutional values and how this varies in differing vocational contexts. Thus, central theories of practice, professionalism and an inter-disciplinary approach are emphasized.

Main Subjects:

- Analysis of current welfare models, institutional work and professional practice in light of academic, humanistic and ideological traditions
- Diaconia and society: the analysis of historical developments, theoretical discourses and current trends
- Public and civil-society actors as health and welfare providers
- Professionalism: historical developments and current trends
- Inter-disciplinarily as a point of departure for the study of professional practice, values and diaconia
- Diaconia as a Church and as societal service-provider in relation to professionalism as health- and social scientific vocational practice
- Value and practice theory as perspectives in the study of professional practice
- Challenges in professional practice, including efficiency demands, documentation, discernment and ethical reflection
- Power and gender issues, and user-perspective in professional practice

Learning Outcome

Completing the course will give the candidates the following learning outcome, sectioned into knowledge, skills and general competence:

Knowledge:

The Candidate

- has extensive knowledge on and critical reflection regarding current discourses and differing perspectives regarding the inter-disciplinary study of professionalism and professional practice based on diaconia, value and practice theory

- has extensive knowledge about churches and value-based organizations as welfare agents in differing welfare models
- is familiar with the interaction and intertwinement between various agents (public/civil-society/commercial) in creating health and welfare

Skills:

The Candidate

- is able to analyze and critically evaluate different perspectives regarding the development of professions and professionalism in relation to various welfare models and institutional work
- can analyze various models of welfare and relate to church, faith-based organizations and civil-society associations as welfare agent regarding differing value-drivers
- can analyze challenges and opportunities in the relationship, such as power and gender, between different agents with in professional practice
- can investigate, discuss and challenge various value and ethical traditions in diaconal, health and social sciences
- can relate research to the multi-cultural and multi-religious dimensions of Norwegian society

General Competence:

The Candidate

- can identify and discuss value foundations and ethical issues in the study of professionalism and professional practice, and work with integrity in the field
- can identify needs for innovation based on research in the applicable field, and able to initiate such innovation
- can critically participate in and contribute to the debate of main topics related to values, power and user-relations in professional practice
- can conduct academic projects in the applicable field with interdisciplinary perspectives
- can position and reflect own research within the frame of inter-disciplinarity

Work and Teaching Methods

The work will consist of a combination of lectures and student activities through discussions, presentations of and responding to PhD projects

Compulsory Activities

Participants are required to submit a written text ahead of the course, approximately 800 words. The text must describe the PhD project of the candidate, reflecting the relation to the course theme. Participants are also required to respond to the text of fellow students and to take part in group discussions.

Assessment

Form of Assessment	Length	Grade	Weight
Essay, 3500 words	N/a	Passed/Fail	100/100

Additional Information about Assessment:

After the course, the student must submit a written essay of 3.500 words +/- 10% (ca. 10 pages).

The essay should reflect and discuss the candidate's ongoing PhD project in relation to Diaconia, Values and Professional Practice. Both a satisfactory course attendance (minimum 75%) and an approved essay are necessary to obtain the 10 ECTS.

Other

The reading list will be adjusted and updated regularly.