



A Swedish Master Course about Children as Next of Kin

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Linnaeus University

Swedish Family Care Competence Centre, Sweden



Children as Next of Kin

Children (<18 years) with parents who suffer from mental illness, severe physical disability, and any form of substance abuse as well as children who have unexpectedly lost a parent or another adult with whom the child permanently lives by death. (SFS 2017:30)

Includes children with caring responsibilities as well as those without.

Children as Next of Kin in Sweden

- 17% parent's with substance abuse
- 11% violence in family
- 18% parent's with physical disability
- 3% parent's with parent's death
- 30 % (substance abuse/mental illness) left elementary school without being eligible to start high school



Hjern, Berg, Rostila & Vinnerljung (2013)

The course



- Master level, half speed for ten weeks
- Web-based via the learning platform MyMoodle
- Swedish Family Care Competence Centre
Linnaeus University
- Supported by the National Board of Health and
Welfare

Students



- 40 students (about 450 applicants)
- Nurses and social workers
- nursing students and social work students
- Doctor, assistant nurse, psychotherapist, teacher, occupational therapist, politician

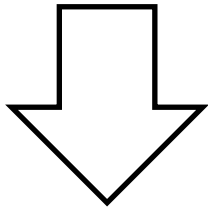


Course content

- Situations for children as next of kin
 - Risk and protecting factors
 - Need for and right to advice, support and information
 - Interview/talk with children
 - Current legislation, knowledge and research
- ➔ Study instructions, recorded lectures, films and group discussions
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Presentation

- Education
- Profession
- Place of work

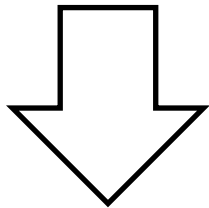


Divided into groups



A case about a children
as next of kin

Own experienced or fictive

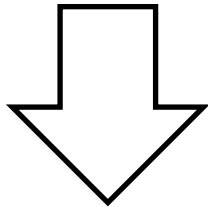


Publiced into the group



Knowledge and research

Develop their case description
based on current knowledge and research

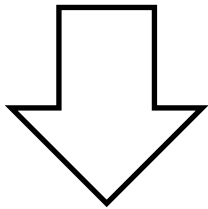


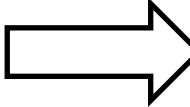
Publish into the group  Give feedback on
each other's work in written seminars

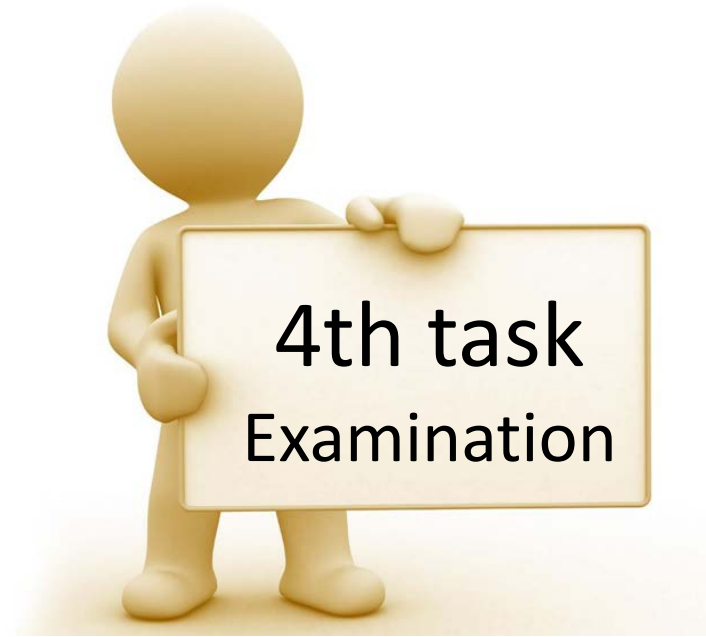


Identify and plan for
appropriate interventions

Develop their case description
further with appropriate interventions



Publish into their groups  Give feedback on
each other's work in oral web seminars = Examination



Written home exam

- Have a talk interview with a child and describe the process
- Compare with other areas
- Describe the knowledge needs at a national, organizational and individual level





Thanks!

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