



MINUTES

18. NOVEMBER 2024

Forum	Meeting in the study board for Public Health Science and Global Health
Meeting date	18 November 2024, 12:30-2:30 pm
Location	CSS 7.0.06
Minute taker	Kristrún Lind Helgadóttir

KØBENHAVNS UNIVERSITET
DET SUNDHEDSVIDENSKABELIGE
FAKULTET
AFDELING FOR UDDANNELSE OG
STUDERENDE
STUDIENÆVN OG EKSAMEN

Present

Signe Smith Jervelund, Terese Sara Høj Jørgensen, Torben Heien Nielsen, Julia Anna Miller, Karoline Huber Pedersen, Sandra Helene Andersen, Dan Wolf Meyrowitsch, Britt Pinkowski Tersbøl, Clara Lundmark Appel, Sofie Caroline Falkenberg Holm, Kristrún Lind Helgadóttir (adm.).

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Not present

Jane Brandt Sørensen

Agenda

Ad 1) Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved without comments

Ad 2) Approval of the minutes from the last meeting.

The minutes from the last meeting were approved without comments

Ad 3) Approval of recommendation of Head of studies for Public Health Science – Signe Smith Jervelund.

The Study board approved the recommendation of Signe Smith Jervelund as Head of studies for Public Health Science for the period 1 February 2025 to 31 January 2028.

Ad 4) Orientation: The Deanery has approved the changes to course descriptions for the following courses in Spring 2025.

- a. [SFOK24001U Mixed methods in Public Health](#): The language is now correctly listed as English.
- b. [SGLK15007U Strategies for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention](#): Changes to the re-exam: The students must create a new portfolio assignment for the re-exam.

Ad 5) Discussion and approval of new dates for the summer course [SGLK22001U Creating Healthy Cities](#).

The new dates for the summer course [SGLK22001U Creating Healthy Cities](#) were approved by the Study Board.

Ad 6) Discussion of the thesis format at Public Health Science with inspiration from MSc in Health Science.

Terese Sara Høj Jørgensen informed that some of her colleagues would like the option to write an article as a thesis, alongside writing an ordinary thesis.

The Study Board discussed pros and cons.

Academic Staff

Pros:

- At Public Health Science at SDU, students can write an article as a thesis.
- Students should be given the opportunity to write an article as a thesis.
- Writing an article as a thesis could be a way for students to get involved in interesting research projects.

Cons:

- Supervisors could get too involved with the writing because the students are writing an article with the aim of it being published. This is already an issue with the ordinary thesis format.

- Supervisors might adjust the articles more than the ordinary thesis because they would be co-authors on the article, unlike the ordinary thesis.
- Students already have the possibility to write a journal paper after they have written their thesis, so there is no need for them to write an article as a thesis; they can just do it afterwards.
- The thesis as an article format is a lot more work for the students. It will take more time than the regular thesis, and it is a different process. Students would therefore have to master both the ordinary thesis format and the article format at the same time, adding more pressure.
- Writing an ordinary thesis and writing an article are two different types of writing and two different products. It could be difficult for the external assessor to grade two such different projects consistently.
- If the student makes an article-based thesis, the supervisor could be very invested, and the focus could easily shift from the student's learning to publication possibilities. The focus must be on the student's learning outcome. The program must give the students the building blocks and scientific foundation for writing a thesis.
- Not all supervisors would like to supervise students writing their thesis in an article format.
- Throughout the Public Health Science program, students are trained in writing a thesis. They are provided with the building blocks for thesis writing. Writing an article is another skill to master; there is an extra layer to this type of writing. You learn to write an article in your research education, not during the bachelor or master program.
- The focus has to be on the student's learning outcome. The program has to give the students the building blocks and scientific foundation for writing a thesis.

Student Group

Pros:

- It would be a good opportunity to write an article. Some theses are already getting published now, so you do not have to do the double work of rewriting the thesis into an article afterwards.
- It can be easier to collaborate with your internship place about your thesis if it is written as an article.
- The addition of a capstone to the article as a thesis should ensure the student's method writing as well as ensure the student fulfills the learning outcomes of the thesis.

Cons:

- Some supervisors might prefer students writing an article as a thesis over students writing an ordinary thesis. This could pressure students into writing their thesis as an article instead of an ordinary thesis. Supervisors would be co-authors, so they would have incentives to have the students write their thesis as an article.
- The thesis as an article format is a different process than the ordinary thesis. Students would therefore have to master both the ordinary thesis format and the article format at the same time, adding more pressure.
- What would the learning advantages be for the students? Students would probably learn more from writing the thesis and then writing the article.

The Study Board is reluctant to allow the article format, finding the cons outweigh the pros, and emphasizing the focus on students' learning outcomes.

Ad 7) Orientation about changes to the exam schedule for GH Summer 2025.

There were no changes to the exam schedule for GH, Summer 2025

Ad 8) Orientation about changes to the exam schedule for PHS Summer 2025.

PHS BSc:

The administration informed about the revised exam schedule

PHS MSc:

There were no changes to the exam schedule for PHS MSc, Summer 2025

Ad 9) Orientation from the student group.

GH:

Julia Anna Miller informed that there has been some issues with signing up for the course Geoinformation. It turns out that the course is not offered to GH students [The course has now been removed from the homepage, course database and exam schedule].

Julia also informed that they had had some problems recruiting students for the Study Board, this issue has now been resolved.

PHS:

The student representatives informed that they have found people that can help with Quota 2 admission. The student representatives will send the names to Head of studies.

The students are working on a mentor programme for PHS students.

The student representatives suggested some changes to the exam schedule for fall 2025. They suggested to switch the Epidemiology course and Data and digitalisering, starting with the Epidemiology course in week 36 and finishing it after 2 weeks, then start the Data and digitalisering course, having the exam in December. [This will be taken into consideration, for the planning of the teaching and exam schedule for fall 2025.]

Ad 10) Orientation from Head of studies (10 min.)

Signe Smith Jervelund has talked to head of institute at IFSV, he is open to give some type on compensation to mentors in the mentor program for PHS.

Ad 11) AOB

Not all students are aware that there is a database where you can find inspiration for you projects.([Welcome to your Career Center | JobTeaser](#)) Head of studies for PHS will talk to the course responsible for 2. Year project, bachelor project and master project, about advertising for this on the courses Absalon pages.