

Challenges in Ageing societies - Care work, technologies, dementia, and ethics

A Transnational PhD course - 2026 in Malmö, Sweden

Most welcome to apply!

This international, multidisciplinary course gives you as a doctoral student and/or post-doc the opportunity to meet in cross-border collaboration.



Purpose and content

Because of healthier lives, late modern societies must deal with increased human life expectancy all around the world. The growth of ageing populations indeed represents a valuable resource, but is also brings societal and economic challenges, as parts of the ageing population will represent vulnerable lives.

- The overarching goal of this transnational PhD course is to explore in depth issues connected to contemporary demographic changes. The course aims to provide students relevant and updated knowledge as well as deepen the student's understanding of ageing societies and care for older persons in a globalized world.
- The course will present fundamental concepts and theories from the perspective of the social sciences and the humanities.
- The course is organized around specific themes related to vulnerable ageing and cross-national comparisons from different welfare state contexts. On a networking level, the course gives a unique opportunity to meet PhD students from other countries and establish contacts for future collaboration.
- The course is relevant for PhD students and/or Post-docs from disciplines such as Gerontology, Sociology, Social work, Political science, Health promotion, Psychology, Educational sciences and Care sciences. The course focuses on care work and services, welfare technologies, dementia, and active ageing which will be related to welfare state policies, individuals' functioning and well-being, ageing theories, and ethical issues
- The course presents critical perspectives from social sciences and the humanities. Mixed methods and qualitative approaches will be represented.
- The course offers possibilities to work with theories on and research in the field of ageing, actively involving students' individual projects.

After completing the course, students will be able to: 1. Identify and discuss societal challenges and opportunities related to ageing and vulnerability in old age. 2. Use multidisciplinary theoretical perspectives to understand and reflect on these. 3. Reflect on and discuss how key concepts and theories from the course apply to their own research.

Learning outcome After completing the course, students will be able to a) Identify, analyze and critically discuss societal challenges and opportunities related to ageing and potential vulnerability in old age. b) Use interdisciplinary theoretical and methodological perspectives to understand and analyse and reflect on these. Reflect on how these challenges and opportunities can be understood c) Put her/his own research and scientific discipline in relation to the issues raised in the course.

Admission requirements

Accepted as PhD student in your home institution

The course is developed in collaboration with Universities of Bologna, Helsinki, Jyväskylä, Roskilde

Contact and further information

[Registration of Interest](#)

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