# PhD Course "Social innovation in theory and practice" 2027 (5 cr)

The course aims to provide PhD students with a theoretical basis in social innovation. The course aims to provide insights into conceptual and empirical research in this field. Thematically, social innovation is highlighted in relation to inclusion and sustainability in organizations and society.

## Seminar 1

Feb 18, 10:00-12:00, online (https://uu-se.zoom.us/j/62603487263)
Theme: **Introduction to social innovation**

Teachers: Mats Målqvist, Malin Lindberg

| **Time** | **Activity** | **Who** |
|---|---|---|
| 10:00 – 10:40 | Welcome and introduction to the course<br>- Presentation round<br>- Course content and seminars<br>- Introduction to social innovation (concept, examples, research area) | Mats & Malin |
| 10:40-10:45 | Break | |
| 10:45 – 11:45 | Intro: Mapping of societal challenges in participants' research | Malin |
| 11:45 – 12:00 | Wrap up – questions and next session | Mats & Malin |

**Compulsory reading before Seminar 1**

- Howaldt, J., Kaletka, C., Schröder, A., Zirngiebl, M. (Eds.) (2018), Atlas of social innovation – new practices for a better future, Dortmund: TU Dortmund, p. 1-25 and 74-92. https://www.socialinnovationatlas.net/fileadmin/PDF/Atlas_of_Social_Innovation.pdf

**Other resources**

SIHI video: journey of innovators with various examples of social innovations – The Innovators Journey (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1oV4DoD9q3I)

# Seminar 2

March 4, 10:00-12:00, online (https://uu-se.zoom.us/j/62603487263)

Theme: **Social innovation in theory and practice**
Teachers: Malin Lindberg, Mats Målqvist, Meredith del Pilar-Labarda

| Time | Activity | Who |
|---|---|---|
| 10.00 – 10.10 | Intro and summary from last session | Mats & Malin |
| 10.10 – 10.55 | Introduction to social innovation theory - Forum for Social Innovation (MSI) | Malin |
| 10.55 – 11.00 | Break | |
| 11.00 – 11.45 | Examples of social innovation - Social Innovation in Health Initiative (SIHI) | Meredith |
| 11.45 – 12.00 | Wrap up – questions and next session. | Mats & Malin |

**Compulsory reading before Seminar 2**

- Lindberg, M. (2025). Summarized knowledge on social innovation. *Available via the online course platform*.
- Tucker, Joseph D., et al. "Social innovation in health: concepts and practice." BMJ Innovations 8.3 (2022). From Supplement BMJ Innovations supplement on Social innovations in health.

**Voluntary reading before Seminar 2**

- Halpaap et al. 2020, Social innovation in health introduction, https://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/article/PIIS2214-109X(20)30070-X/fulltext
- Dako-Gyeke, P., Amazigo, U.V., Halpaap, B. et al. (2020). Social innovation for health: engaging communities to address infectious diseases. Infect Dis Poverty, 9:98. https://doi.org/10.1186/s40249-020-00721-3
- Rhule, E., Allotey, P.A. (2020). Researching social innovation: is the tail wagging the dog? Infect Dis Poverty, 9(3). https://doi.org/10.1186/s40249-019-0616-7

**Other resources**

- Blas MM, Reinders S, Alva A, Neuman M, Lange I, Huicho L, Ronsmans C. (2023). Effect of the Mamás del Río programme on essential newborn care: a three-year before-and-after outcome evaluation of a community-based, maternal and neonatal health intervention in the Peruvian Amazon. Lancet Reg Health Am. 28:100634. doi: 10.1016/j.lana.2023.100634
- Social innovation M&E guide, https://socialinnovationinhealth.org/monitoring-evaluation-framework/
- Social Innovation in Health, BMJ special supplement, https://bmjgroup.com/bmj-innovations-special-supplement-on-social-innovations-for-health/

# Seminar 3

March 18, 10:00 – 12:00, online (https://uu-se.zoom.us/j/62603487263)

Theme: **Designing and crowd-sourcing social innovation**
Teachers: Joe Tucker, Mats Målqvist, Malin Lindberg

| Time | Activity | Who |
|---|---|---|
| 10:00 – 10:10 | Intro and summary from last session | Mats & Malin |
| 10:10 – 10.55 | Designing social innovations – Crowdsourcing, designathons, and co-creation | Joe |
| 10:55 – 11:00 | Break | |
| 11:00 – 11:45 | Designing social innovations – Crowdsourcing, designathons, and co-creation | Joe |
| 11:45 – 12:00 | Wrap up – questions and next session | Mats & Malin |

**Compulsory reading before Seminar 3**

- Tao, Y., et al. (2025). "Youth co-creation in health interventions: a systematic review and meta-analysis." medRxiv: 2025.2010.2020.25338251. https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2025.10.20.25338251v1

**Voluntary reading before Seminar 3**

- Warittha Tieosapjaroen, et al. (2024). Designathons in health research: a global systematic review: BMJ Global Health 2024:9:e013961.
- Fitzpatrick T, Zhao P, Liang P et al. Community-engaged implementation strategies to increase doxycycline post-exposure prophylaxis uptake among men who have sex with men in China (DoxyForward): a three-group, open-label, randomised controlled trial
- The Lancet Infectious Diseases, 2026 (online ahead of print). https://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473-3099(26)00231-8/abstract (full text in Studium)

**Other resources**

- TDR/UNICEF/SESH (2026). Co-creation in health and health research. https://iris.who.int/items/9df78e6d-a550-4091-be80-631d091192ce
- World Health Organization & UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (2018). Crowdsourcing in health and health research: a practical guide. World Health Organization. https://iris.who.int/handle/10665/273039.
- WHO/TDR. Practical guide on participatory health research: A practical guide on designathons.https://socialinnovationinhealth.org/health-designathon-guide/
- SESH/SIHI mid-year training workshop. Each recorded lecture has learning objectives, reading materials, and Powerpoints on the website. https://www.seshglobal.org/sihi-training-workshop-2024/

# Seminar 4

April 8, 10:00 – 12:00, online (https://uu-se.zoom.us/j/62603487263)

Theme: **Implementation and adaptation of social innovations**
Teachers: Mats Målqvist, Malin Lindberg

| Time | Activity | Who |
|---|---|---|
| 10:00 – 10:10 | Intro and summary from last session | Mats & Malin |
| 10:10 – 10.55 | Implementation frameworks | Mats |
| 10:55 – 11:00 | Break | |
| 11:00 – 11:45 | Context and adaptation of social innovatoions | Mats |
| 11:45 – 12:00 | Wrap up – questions & examination info | Mats & Malin |

**Compulsory reading before Seminar 4**

- Hunter SC, Kim B, Mudge A, Hall L, Young A, McRae P, Kitson AL. Experiences of using the i-PARIHS framework: a co-designed case study of four multi-site implementation projects. BMC Health Serv Res. 2020 Jun 23;20(1):573. doi: 10.1186/s12913-020-05354-8.
- Kåks P, Bergström A, Herzig van Wees S, Målqvist M. (2022). Adapting a South African social innovation for maternal peer support to migrant communities in Sweden: a qualitative study. Int J Equity Health, 21(1):88. https://equityhealthj.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12939-022-01687-4

**Voluntary reading before Seminar 4**

- Niemeyer Hultstrand J, Engström E, Målqvist M, Tydén T, Maseko N, Jonsson M. Evaluating the implementation of the Reproductive Life Plan in disadvantaged communities: A mixed-methods study using the i-PARIHS framework. PLoS One. 2020 Sep 11;15(9):e0236712. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0236712.
- van Gerven, M., & Torenvlied, R. (2023). What matters in the local adaptation of Western social innovation to China: deep core beliefs, institutional boundary conditions or managerial practices? Innovation: The European Journal of Social Science Research, 37(1), 136–151. https://doi.org/10.1080/13511610.2023.2266582
- Ssanyu JN, Kananura RM, Birabwa C, Kizito F, Namutamba S, Akongo D, Namara E, Kyangwa M, Kaula H, Nakimuli D, Magunda A, Kakaire O, Waiswa P. (2023). How a co-design process led to more contextually relevant family planning interventions in emerging urban settings in Eastern Uganda. PLOS Glob Public Health, 3(9). https://journals.plos.org/globalpublichealth/article?id=10.1371/journal.pgph.0002421

# Seminar 5

April 22, 09:00-12:00, online (https://uu-se.zoom.us/j/62603487263)

Theme: **Presenting your learnings on social innovation**
Teachers: Mats Målqvist, Malin Lindberg

| **Time** | **Activity** | **Who** |
|---|---|---|
| 09:00 – 09:10 | Intro and summary from last session | Mats & Malin |
| 09:10 – 10:20 | 10 min presentation + 10 min discussion | Participants |
| 10:20-10:40 | Break | |
| 10:40-11:45 | 10 min presentation + 10 min discussion | Participants |
| 11:45 – 12:00 | Wrap up – questions & evaluation info | Mats & Malin |

**Preparation before Seminar 4**

- Prepare an oral presentation of your learnings on social innovation from the course, in relation to your specific PhD project. The presentation should take 10 minutes.