

## **Social Representations – theory and methodology in qualitative research approaches**

In times of upheaval and change, people face many challenges in their daily lives, their working lives and in their being in society. Ongoing transformations of social knowledge, of what earlier has been taken for granted, becomes crucial in understanding social phenomena of various kinds. New ways of social practice and of communicating about a certain social phenomenon challenge previous, socially formed, and shared knowledge.

This course will pay attention to the theory of social representations and explore its potential of investigating and understanding social knowledge of various social phenomena. Especially, the relation will be highlighted between taken for granted knowledge and its transformation in times of change. The course will deepen your understanding of the basic ideas and concepts of the social representations theory and contribute to illuminating the ways that the theory has been applied and can be applied within the social sciences and humanities, with a particular focus on qualitative approaches.

The course will be given through online lectures, seminars and workshops and is recommended to PhD-candidates, or the equivalent, in social science and humanities, interested in social knowledge, social phenomena within education and working life science, pedagogy/andragogy, media, communication, professionalization, policy governance and related areas.