

## **Syllabus** for **Basic Course in Life Philosophy and Ethics, 5 credits**

### **Constitution of the course of studies**

This course syllabus was approved by the Board of the Department for Diacony and Theology, Ersta-Sköndal University College on June 7, 2005. The course forms part of the Church of Sweden lay welfare worker training carried out by Ersta-Sköndal University College in co-operation with Vårsta Diaconic Centre.

### **Educational objectives**

- to impart basic knowledge of life philosophical issues, especially those actualized by diaconic work
- to create familiarity with ethical issues in diaconic work
- to give a preparatory base for a subsequent course in pastoral counselling

### **Course content**

The course deals with ethical issues related to diaconic work. Life philosophical issues in today's society are discussed with the aid of both theoretical and literary works, along with other forms of cultural expression. The life situations of individuals in post-modern society are also illuminated from a pastoral perspective.

### **Methods of instruction**

Instruction is in the form of lectures, textbook seminars, group discussions, and study visits.

### **Attendance**

Attendance at lectures and seminars is obligatory. Absence of more than 20 per cent but less than 35 per cent may be compensated for by completion of special assignments. In the event of an absence of 35 per cent or more, the student is required to attend missed lectures and/or seminars the next time the course is given.

### **Examination and grading**

The course is examined by the portfolio method. The grades given are pass with distinction, pass or fail.

### **Textbooks**

- Collste, Göran (2002), *Inledning till etiken* Studentlitteratur
- Dalai Lama, *Etik för ett nytt millennium*. Damm förlag 2003. [*Ethics for the New Millennium: His Holiness the Dalai Lama*. Riverhead Books 2001]
- Hornby, Nick, *En god människa*, Forum 2003. [*How to be Good*. Penguin Books, 2002]
- Kjellqvist, ElseBritt (1993), *Rött och vitt – om skam och skamlöshet*. Carlssons
- Nordstokke, Kjell (1998), *Diakonins hverdag*. Oslo: (sold at Vårsta)
- Flint Pedersen, Jette (1994), *Yrkesetik. Hur klienten upplever socialtjänsten*. Stockholm: Norstedts Juridik
- Wolff, Tobias, *Natten ifråga*. Stockholm: Norstedts 1996. [*The Night in Question*. Bloomsbury 1997]