

## Social studies as part of VET curricula

### Denmark

#### DESCRIPTION

In Denmark, “**Social studies**” is an **obligatory subject for all VET programmes**. It spans a total of 1,5 weeks and is described as follows:

“Social studies are concerned with Danish and international social relations. The subject gives learners insights into conditions on the labour market with the aim of enabling them to navigate as an employee in a context of industrial relations and labour market legislation. On a concrete basis, the subject provides knowledge and understanding of dynamics and complexities of modern society by connecting current societal developments to sociological, economic and political contexts and thus qualifies learners’ own position and options for action.”

“Knowledge and insights into the conditions on the labour market” is elaborated through several **learning objectives**, including:

- **Organisations on the labour market**, including confederations, the structure of trade unions and employers’ associations;
- The **role of contractual bargaining and basic conflicts of interest** between trade unions and employers;
- The awareness of **one’s own role and spheres of influence at the workplace**, based on the knowledge of enterprises and organisations and how industrial relations are regulated;
- **Labour market conditions** in the light of influence from **international markets**;
- **Free movement of labour and outsourcing**;
- **Psychological work environment**, including rights and duties in cases of sexual harassment on the labour market.

In addition, competences like **personal development, critical thinking and intercultural understanding** are also [integrated into other obligatory subjects](#) such as Psychology, Danish, and foreign languages.