Syllabus
SM00018, Introduktion till forskning, 8 högskolepoäng

Forskarnivå

Introduction to Research, 8 higher education credits

Third Cycle

1. Confirmation

The syllabus is confirmed by the Council for Postgraduate Studies 2011-12-06, after delegations according to the Academy's work plan and plan of delegation.

The syllabus takes effect from the spring 2012.

Department responsible: Institute fo Medicine.

2. Position in the educational system

Introduction to Research (8 hp) comprises together with the Half-time Seminar (5 hp) and the PhD Proficiency Course (2 hp) the obligatory course of all-together 15 hp at the Sahlgrenska Academy.

Introduction to Research (8 hp) should be taken during the first semester after commencement of PhD studies, or as soon as possible thereafter.

3. Entry requirements

For admission to the course there is a requirement of admission to PhD studies.

4. Contents

The course contains teaching in primarily

- Theory of science
- Research ethics
- Medical statistics
• Research methodology
• Information retrieval
• Scientific Communication

5. Mål

After completed course the student should be able to:

Knowledge and understanding
• describe the theoretical principles on which different research methodologies are based
• describe the scientific publishing process and various publication models and discuss their advantages and disadvantages

Skills and ability
• place the own research as well as research in general in the perspectives of theory of science and research ethics, be able to discuss te own research in relation to scientific norm, and relate it to Swedish laws and regulations of research ethics
• reflect on and argue for the application of different research methodologies in relation to one’s own and other’s research problems
• apply basic statistical concepts and methods
• search information in physical and digital collections, catalogues and other bibliographic tools in a scientific library, compose search strategies, argue for these, and critically assess and evaluate acheived information as well as the search process per se
• produce and present oral and written scientific presentations, where well motivated choises of content and level of difficulty has been made in relation to the audience and objective
• identify and correct the most common structural and stilistic weaknesses in scientific texts

Evaluation ability and way of relating
• apply ethical rules and norms for authorship and publication of scientific data
• identify and apply tools for constructive peer criticism regarding scientific texts

6. Litterature

See separate literature list in "Course Information".

7. Forms for appraisal

Examination is done through a project portfolio and a oral presentation. The portfolio shall contain the own project plan, complemented with a commentary on the different perspectives included in the course, peer-reviews of other course participants texts, and a reflection on the peer-to-peer feedback

The PhD student is expected to participate in all parts of the course. To pass the course, active participation is required at seminars, group assignments and examinations, and passed examinations
are required. In case of absence from mandatory elements, completion of the course should be done according to instruction from the course leader.

A student has the right to request a change of examiner if failed twice on the same exam, if this is practically possible. Such a request should be put forward in writing and addressed to the department.

8. Grading scale

The grading scale comprises the grades Failed (U) and Pass (G)

9. Course evaluation

Course evaluation is carried out in writing through a course evaluation published in GUL (the University of Gothenburg's learning platform) as well as through a common discussion at the end of the course. The teacher responsible for the course compiles an analysis of the course evaluations and makes suggestions for the development of the course. Analyses and suggestions are conveyed to the students and published on the University of Gothenburg's learning platform, GUL.

10. Additional information

Language if teaching is normally English. Oral and written presentations are done in English.

The different parts of the course are integrated and therefore parts of the course can not be credited.