



COURSE DESCRIPTOR

Seminar in Research Methodology

Seminarium kring forsknings- och utredningsmetodik

7,5 ECTS credit points (7,5 högskolepoäng)

Course code: FE2415

Educational level: Advanced level

Course level: D

Field of education: Social sciences

Subject area: Business administration

Version: 1

Applies from: 2007-09-03

Approved: 2007-08-16

Replaces course descriptor approved: 2006-12-08

1 Course title and credit points

The course is titled Seminar in Research Methodology/Seminarium kring forsknings- och utredningsmetodik and awards 7,5 credit points. One credit point (högskolepoäng) corresponds to one credit point in the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

2 Decision and approval

This course is established by The Education Committee of the School of Management 2007-08-16. The course descriptor is approved by The Education Committee of the School of Management and applies from 2007-09-03.

3 Objectives

The overall goal of the course is to advance the students' ability to plan, design and conduct an in-depth investigation or research project within the area of business administration.

The course thus aim to prepare students for their thesis-work. Simultaneously the course has the purpose to prepare students for advanced investigative work within a business and management context.

4 Content

The course comprises the following elements;

- Problematization and problem formulation
- Objectives and research questions
- Forms and sources of data
- Strategies and techniques of information search
- System of references
- Methods for collection of primary data
- Literature reviews
- Writing thesis proposals and investigation plans

5 Aims and learning outcomes

On completion of the course the student will be able to:

- Define a management problem or issue, setting out

appropriate objectives and research questions

- Structure a logically coherent argument and critically evaluate relevant literature
- Demonstrate a good understanding of advanced methodological approaches to management research
- Retrieve and critically evaluate information and data from different sources
- Conduct a literature review
- Write a thesis proposal and a plan of investigation

6 Generic skills

The following generic skills are trained in the course:

- Information retrieval
- Critical thinking, analysis and synthesis
- Academic writing
- Research skills

7 Learning and teaching

The course is designed as an action learning project where students will learn from developing and writing a thesis proposal or plan of investigation, individually or in a small team. Furthermore, the students will engage with academic mentors who will offer advice throughout the course. The work of the students will also be assisted by a series of seminars/workshops on information retrieval and research methodology. In the seminars students will also get an opportunity to meet and discuss with researchers representing different research approaches.

8 Assessment and grading

Examination of the course

Code	Module	Credit	Grade
0710	Literature review	3hp	U/G
0720	Thesis Proposal	4.5hp	U/G

The course will be graded Fail (U) or Pass (G).

9 Course evaluation

The course coordinator is responsible for systematically gathering feedback from the students in course evaluations and making sure that the results of these feed back into the development of the course.

10 Prerequisites

Students are required to have 90 credit points in Business Administration or another subject within Social Science. Within these credits a project of at least 15 credit points should be included.

Students accepted for the MSc Programme in Business Administration (60 credit points) are eligible for the course. (or the equivalent).

11 Field of education and subject area

The course is part of the field of education Social sciences and is included in the subject area business administration.

12 Restrictions regarding degree

The course cannot form part of a degree with another course, the content of which completely or partly corresponds with the contents of this course.

13 Course literature and other teaching material

P. Ghauri & K Grønhaug, "Research Methods in Business Research", Financial Times/Prentice Hall 2005, ISBN 0-273-68156-7

Selected articles

