UNIVERSITY OF BORÅS

Master's Thesis
Masteruppsats
30 credits

Ladok Code: 32LMU1
Version: 6.0
Established by: Committee for Education in Librarianship, Information, and IT 2015-12-15
Valid from: Spring 2016

Education Cycle: Second cycle
Main Field of Study (Progressive Specialisation): Library and Information Science (A2E)
Disciplinary Domain: other
Prerequisites: The following courses (or equivalent) must be approved: Digital Library Management (ÖLUL13); Users and Information Activities in Digital Environments (32LAI1); Digital Library Research Methods (32LFM1)
Subject Area: Library and Information Science
Grading Scale: ECTS-credits

Content
Students conduct a research and/or development task that is documented in the form of Masters thesis. Main content of the course includes:
- applied research theory and method
- scholarly communication
- research quality
- writing, defence and critical assessment of a research text

The student performs scientific communication by means of an independent work that may take the form of either a traditional thesis or an application where either a tool or service is developed, well documented and thoroughly analysed reflexively.

Learning Outcomes
After completion of the course the students should, with respect to,

Knowledge and understanding,
1.1 be able to identify and formulate a research problem relevant for the programme area

Skills and abilities
2.1 be able to delineate, design and conduct a research task within the area of Library and Information Science
2.2 be able to relate research problems to earlier research by finding relevant literature, and present and assess research literature relevant to a research problem
2.3 be able to select and apply theories relevant for a certain problem area
2.4 be able to select and apply adequate methods for the design and accomplishment of a certain research oriented investigation within a problem area
2.5 be able to formulate the result of an investigation as a research oriented text and possibly even as an application or service, by means of the presentation of well delimited empirical data that has been collected and analysed with selected theories and concepts
2.6 be able to draw scientically valid conclusions from an investigation and make the relevance explicit for a scientific context or/and a certain professional activity
2.7 be able to consequently apply rules of academic publication and follow other conventions of the scientific genres

Professional judgments
3.1 be able to assess independently and critically the strength and limitations of a scientific investigation
3.2 be able to conduct scientific work following the principles of research ethics

3.3 be able to defend a scientific investigation in a conclusive way and critically be able to scrutinize the conclusiveness of scientific work

Forms of Teaching

Tuition is conducted through seminars, lectures and supervision.

The language of instruction is English.

Forms of Examination

Examination is conducted through the following means:

• Degree project
Learning outcome 1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7, 3.1 och 3.2
ECTS: 30
Grading: A/F

• Seminar: Defence
learning outcome 3.1, 3.3
ECTS: 0
Grading: U/G

• Seminar: Opposition
Learning outcome 3,1 , 3.3
ECTS: 0
Grading: U/G

For grade E at least the grade G or E holds for every examination part. The grade E or higher for the whole course is based on the grading of the thesis work.

Student rights and obligations at examination are in accordance with guidelines and rules for the University of Borås.

Literature and Other Teaching Materials

At least 400 pages of research text and teaching means selected in consultation with a supervisor.

Student Influence and Evaluation

The course is evaluated in accordance with the current guidelines for course evaluations at the University of Borås, where students' views should be sought. The course evaluation report will be published and disseminated to participating and prospective students in accordance with the current guidelines, and forms the basis for future development of courses and training programs. The course coordinator is responsible for that the evaluation is performed according to current guidelines.

Miscellaneous

The allocated time for supervision is limited to when the course is running, if not any other written agreement is agreed upon between supervisor and student. A student that is reregistered on the course cannot expect additional supervision.

The course is a part of the Master's programme in LIS: Digital Libraries and Information Services.