

Scientific Methodology and Communication

Vetenskaplig metodik och kommunikation

7.5 credits

Ladok Code: 52VM01

Version: 3.0

Established by: The Teaching Committee 2011-10-21

Valid from: Spring 2012

Education Cycle: Second cycle

Main Field of Study (Progressive Specialisation): Engineering (A1N), Textile Management (A1N)

Disciplinary Domain: Social sciences

Prerequisites: These prerequisites do not apply to students within the programme **Science without Borders**

Bachelor's degree in Textile Technology, Textile Economics, Business Administration, Industrial Economics, Engineering, Media or Design, and English B or equivalent qualifications.

Subject Area: Other Subjects within Social Science

Grading Scale: ECTS-credits

Content

- Criteria for science: philosophy of science, ontology and epistemology.
- The history of science and science methods.
- Research methods: Quantitative methods (mainly regression), Qualitative methods (mainly interview).
- The research process: Formulating questions, theory, empirical material and analysis, and publication.

In addition, discussion of key concepts such as induction and deduction.

- Scientific ethics
- Critical thinking and scientific argumentation.
- The sociology of science: science in practice, scientific society and subcultures, research rigging, the referee system.
- Information retrieval

Learning Outcomes

After completing and passing the course, students should be able to:

- describe and master basic scientific theoretical concepts and problems
- describe the history of scientific ideas from both a historical and philosophical perspective
- retrieve information and adopt a source-critical approach
- demonstrate an understanding of quantitative and qualitative methods

Forms of Teaching

Teaching comprises lectures, presentation assignments and seminars. Teaching is conducted in English.

Forms of Examination

The following examinations will form part of this course with respect to the stated learning objectives:

- Written reports, which are presented and defended verbally, 5.0 credits Grading scale: EC
 - Examination 2.5 credits Grading scale: EC
- Grading scale: EC, i.e. the course is assessed using the grades A, B, C, D, E, Fx or F (ECTS grading scale). Students must obtain at least an E in all parts of the examination in order to achieve a minimum overall grade of E. The final grade will be a weighted average of the grades of all these elements.

Student rights and obligations at examination are in accordance with guidelines and rules for

the University of Borås.

Literature and Other Teaching Materials

Bryman, Alan (2004) Social Research Methods, Oxford: Oxford University Press. (580 s)

A selection of articles and chapters will be included, max. 400 pages

Student Influence and Evaluation

The views of students will be canvassed systematically and regularly by means of written course assessments once courses are complete. Student representatives will work together with the Director of Studies and the course manager once a term to review courses held. For further information, please see the College's policy on course assessments and documents prepared by the Institutional Board, Director of Studies and course manager.

Miscellaneous

The course is first and foremost a programme course for the Master's degrees in Applied Textile Management, Fashion Management and Textile Engineering. Since the prior knowledge requirements may vary between students the idea is for them to be able to focus on those areas where they are weakest. The course therefore offers a certain amount of choice, but the first part of it covers more general areas and it is examined via individual examination.