

Thesis for Master's (one year) Degree in Informatics Självständigt arbete för magisterexamen inom informatik

15 credits

15 högskolepoäng

Ladok Code: C2MI1D

Version: 1.1

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): Informatics (A1E)

Disciplinary Domain: Natural sciences

Prerequisites: Passed courses: Thesis for Bachelor's Degree in Informatics, 15 credits and Research Methodology Course, 7,5 credits.

Subject Area: Informatics/Computer and Systems Sciences

Grading Scale: Seven-degree grading scale (A-F)

Content

The overall goal for the course is for the students to develop their scientific skills and deepen their scientific maturity in such a way that they can carry out a scientific study and present a critical approach to both their own and other's research.

The course includes the following elements:

- Subject specification
- Planning reports
- Ontological aspects
- Epistemological aspects
- Methodological aspects
- Conducting a research study
- Written and oral presentation of the research
- Opposition on another groups work

The course starts with a seminar where the students present their ideas for the research task. This presentation is the basis for allocation of supervisors. The work continues with continuous supervision, in parallel with seminars where the students discuss ontological, epistemological and methodological aspects of their study. The research is reported in a thesis, which will be presented at a seminar, where the thesis and the presentation is scrutinized by opposition from another group of students.

Learning Outcomes

After passed course the student should, with an emphasis on,

Knowledge and understanding

1. account for various scientific approaches,
2. discuss different research strategies
3. participate in academic discussions on ontological, epistemological and methodological issues related to the informatics discipline,
4. account current research areas within the discipline,
5. discuss theories and methods applicable within the discipline,

Skills and abilities

6. present very good arguments for selecting a scientific approach, research strategy and scientific method
7. analyse own collected data
8. report an independent performed research study

9. critically review and assess scientific reports within the informatics discipline
10. use research results from ongoing research within the field, based on the need that different target groups have
11. independently perform a larger qualified knowledge development within the informatics discipline

Valuation ability and perspectives

12. demonstrate a critical approach to both their own and other's research.

Forms of Teaching

Teaching mainly consists of independent thesis group work, either in groups or individually. Within the course semester, supervision is provided. Additional supervision after the original course semester, e.g. when re-registering for the course, is only provided in special circumstances.

The language of instruction is English.

Forms of Examination

The course is examined through an integrated examination element (EXA1) for 15 credits and includes the following mandatory parts:

- Active participation in the seminar discussions on the ontological, epistemological and methodological issues (Learning outcomes 2, 3, 6, 12)
- Written report of scientific thesis (Learning outcomes 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12)
- Presentation and defence of the thesis at an examination seminar (Learning outcomes 2, 3, 6, 12)
- The opposition on another group's thesis and presentation (Learning outcomes 2, 3, 6, 12)

The grading scale for the course is AF. In order to receive the grade Passed on the whole course (grade E on the AF scale), the grade Passed is required on all course elements. The grade for the whole course is then decided based on the thesis, which is graded using the AF scale. The examiner will consult the tutor and other stakeholders, if applicable, when grading the thesis.

The student has the right to five examinations. An examination is defined as a scheduled seminar that the student has had the opportunity to be examined at, with the assumption that student has pursued thesis work at normal course pace. For the purpose of counting available opportunities for examination, all seminars within an examination round count as one examination opportunity.

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

Literature and Other Teaching Materials

Literature will be determined in consultation with the supervisor.

Student Influence and Evaluation

The course is evaluated in accordance with the school's guidelines, in which students' views will be obtained. The results of the evaluation will be published and fed back to participating and prospective students in accordance with the school's guidelines, and will provide the basis for future course and program development.

Miscellaneous

The course is offered as a part of the Master's (1-year) Degree in Informatics.

This syllabus is a translation from the Swedish original.