



Research Methods in Informatics and Business Administration Forskningsmetoder inom informatik och företagsekonomi

7.5 credits

Ladok Code: C1FM1C

Version: 2.0

Established by: Committee for Education in Librarianship, Information, and IT 2016-04-29

Valid from: Autumn 2016

Education Cycle: First cycle

Main Field of Study (Progressive Specialisation): Informatics (G2F), Business Administration (G2F)

Disciplinary Domain: Natural sciences 50%, Social sciences 50%

Prerequisites: Passed courses of 60 credits in Business Administration or passed course of 60 credits in Informatics.

Subject Area: Informatics/Computer and Systems Sciences

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

Content

The overall objective of the course is to educate and train the students in the use of scientific methods in informatics and business administration.

During the course the participants shall develop a plan for the empirical part of their research project that even contains a methodological discussion. This planning report is handed in in writing. The students present the planning report at seminars where they also read and comment the reports of other participants.

The course begins with an introduction to relevant scientific and epistemological approaches and terms. Thereafter follow lectures on qualitative and quantitative designs and methods. The knowledge is deepened in independent work on the development of the planning report.

Learning Outcomes

After course completion, the student should be able to,

Knowledge and understanding

1.1. Understand and account for relevant research paradigms, designs and methods,

Competence and skills

2.1. Conceptualize a problem identified in business administration or informatics and translate and operationalize it into research question suitable for further in-depth studies,

2.2. Based on the research question and the problem at hand, choose an appropriate method and design for the study with practical considerations in mind,

2.3. Communicate planned research work orally and in writing,

Judgement and approach

3.1. Collect and analyze scientific literature related to the problem that can form a theoretic base,

3.2. Reflect critically on alternative methods and their suitability for the problem, and

3.3. Reflect critically and comment constructively the scientific work of other participants.

Forms of Teaching

Instruction is based on lectures, tutoring and seminars where planning reports are presented and discussed.

The language of instruction is English.

Forms of Examination

The course will be examined in three examinations:

- Written assignment

Learning outcomes: 1.1

Credits: 2,0

Grading scale: AF

- Report: Planning report.

Learning outcomes: 1.1 – 3.3

Credits: 6,0

Grading scale: AF

- Seminar: Oral presentation of planning report and opposition.

Learning outcomes: 2.3, 3.3

Credits: 1,5

Grading scale: AF

A grade of E for the whole course requires at least a grade of E for all three examinations. The grade for the whole course is thereafter determined by the grade for the planning report.

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

Literature and Other Teaching Materials

The course literature is in English.

Robson, C. (latest edition, 2011 or later). Real World Research. Hoboken (NJ): John Wiley & Sons.

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 course is offered within the Bachelor programme in Business Informatics with specialization in International Marketing and IT, the Master programme in Business Administration, and the Master programme in Informatics.

This syllabus is a translation from the Swedish original.