UNIVERSITY OF BORÅS

Thesis for Master's (one year) Degree in Informatics

Självständigt arbete för magisterexamen inom informatik

15 credits
15 högskolepoäng

Ladok Code: C2MI1D
Version: 7.0
Established by: Committee for Education in Librarianship, Information, and IT 2016-12-13
Valid from: Spring 2017

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 course is about executing a scientific study on advanced level. This implies arriving at a research problem relevant for informatics and a related research question, a suitable research method, related research, a theoretic basis, collection of relevant data, data analysis and a result that answers the research question. In addition, the own work shall be presented and defended and another master thesis shall be reviewed critically and constructively.
The work is usually done in groups of two students or in exceptional cases individually. Before the course the student hands in a thesis proposal presenting the topic of the thesis, the preliminary research question and aims and the chosen method. Based on this proposal a tutor is assigned. The work is then carried out by the thesis group accompanied by continuous tutoring. The study is reported in a thesis that is presented at a seminar where the thesis and the presentation are subjected to opposition by another group.

Learning Outcomes

After passed course the student should be able to, with respect to,
Knowledge and understanding
1,1 describe a scientific problem
1.2 describe different research approaches
1.3 describe the relevant scientific literature

Competence and skills
2.1 present very good arguments for the choice of research approach, strategy and method
2.2 independently execute a larger qualified knowledge development in informatics
2.3 make use of existing research results in informatics
2.4 execute a scientific study on advanced level
2.5 analyze data on advanced level and
2.6 report the own study

Judgment and approach
3.1 critically review and judge scientific reports
3.2 analyze and make conclusions based on a theoretic framework or, often, empirical studies
3.3 defend the own work and
3.4 critically review somebody else’s work.

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 as follows:
Thesis: written report on the scientific study (in groups)
Learning outcomes: 1.1-1.3, 2.1-2.6, 3.1-3.2
Credits: 15
Grading scale: A-F

Presentation and defense of own thesis
Learning outcomes: 1.1-1.2, 2.1, 2.6, 3.3
Credits: 0
Grading scale: Pass or Fail

Review of another thesis
Learning outcomes: 3.4
Credits: 0
Grading scale: Pass or Fail

For a passing grade (A-E) on the entire course, the grade Pass (G) is required on *Presentation and defense of own thesis* and *Review of another thesis* together with at least grade E on *Thesis*. A higher grade on the entire course is thereafter determined by the grade on *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

Self-sourced literature

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.