

Research methods 1

Forskningsmetoder 1

7.5 credits

Ladok Code: C3LFO1

Version: 1.0

Established by: Committee for Education in Librarianship, Information, and IT 2022-09-20

Valid from: Spring 2023

Education Cycle: Second cycle

Main Field of Study (Progressive Specialisation): Library and Information Science (A1N)

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

Prerequisites: Degree of Bachelor

Subject Area: Library and Information Science

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

Content

The course deals with methods for sampling, collecting, generating and analysis of empirical data, both from a qualitative and quantitative approach. In addition quality aspects on research is treated, such as validity, reliability and trustworthiness when applying quantitative and qualitative approaches. Research ethics and legal issues around research is introduced.

Learning Outcomes

After passing the course the student should be able to, concerning,

Knowledge and understanding

1.1 account for fundamental research method principles regarding sampling, collecting, generating and analysis of data and explain the relation between scholarly problem formulation, methodological approaches and research study design

Competence and skills

2.1 suggest and argument for different methods of collection, generation and analysis of empirical data with respect to different research problems

2.2 perform analyses with fundamental methods for descriptive and inferential statistics with the help of appropriate software

2.3 account for correlational and uncertainty factors when collecting and analysing data

Judgement and approach

3.1 explain how choices of method and research implementation are conditioned by and correlate with societal phenomena

Forms of Teaching

Teaching is conducted in the form of exercises, lectures and practical demonstrations.

The language of instruction is English.

Forms of Examination

The course is examined through:

- Written exam: Research methods

Learning outcomes: 1.1, 2.1 - 2.3, 3.1

Credits: 7,5

Grading scale: A-F

The grade for the course as a whole is determined by the grade for Written exam: Research methods.

In the event of changes in course plans students who wish to complete courses can be examined on the basis of the most recent version of the course plan. For courses that are no longer running, students who wish to complete such courses can read all or

part of an equivalent course.

If the student has received a decision/recommendation regarding special pedagogical support from the University of Borås due to disability or special needs, the examiner has the right to make accommodations when it comes to examination. The examiner must, based on the objectives of the course syllabus, determine whether the examination can be adapted in accordance with the decision/recommendation.

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

Literature and Other Teaching Materials

Bryman, A. (2018). *Samhällsvetenskapliga metoder*. (3. ed.). Stockholm: Liber. (Selected parts, approx. 600 pages)
or

Bryman, A. (2016). *Social research methods*. (5. ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press. (Selected parts, approx. 600 pages)

Djurfeldt, G., Larsson, R. & Stjärnhagen, O. (2010 or later ed.). *Statistisk verktygslåda 1: samhällsvetenskaplig orsaksanalys med kvantitativa metoder*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. (Selected parts, approx. 300 pages)
or

Agresti, A. & Finlay, B. (2009 or later ed.). *Statistical methods for the social sciences*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson. (Selected parts, approx 200 pages)

To be added, scientific articles that illustrates applications om methods, comprising approx. 100 pages

Student Influence and Evaluation

The course is evaluated in accordance with current guidelines for course evaluations at the University of Borås in which students' views are to be gathered. The course evaluation report is published and returned to participating and prospective students in accordance with the above-mentioned guidelines, and will be taken into consideration in the future development of courses and education programmes. Course coordinators are responsible for ensuring that the evaluations are conducted as described above.

Miscellaneous

The course is a part of *Master in Library and Information Science, distance education* and *Master's programme: Library and Information Science, Digital Library and Information Services*.

This syllabus is a translation from the Swedish original.