UNIVERSITY OF BORÅS

Introduction to information science
Introduktion till informationsvetenskap
7.5 credits

Ladok Code: C3MIN1
Version: 1.0
Established by: Committee for Education in Librarianship, Information, and IT 2022-06-08
Valid from: Autumn 2023

Education Cycle: Second cycle
Main Field of Study (Progressive Specialisation): Information Science (A1N), Library and Information Science (A1N)
Disciplinary Domain: other
Prerequisites: Bachelor's degree
Subject Area: Library and Information Science
Grading Scale: Seven-degree grading scale (A-F)

Content
The course deals with the central theories, concepts, and problems of information science and uses digitisation as an overarching theme to introduce concepts such as information, documents, media forms, content representation, knowledge organisation, information behaviour and search. A partial focus of the course is how digital information can be represented and made available, but questions about ethics and sustainable development with relevance to the subject of information science are also addressed in the course. The course also deals with strategies and approaches for information searching in bibliographic databases. Parts of the teaching and examination take the form of literature seminars. The final examination in the course consists of an independent in-depth study within one of the problem areas of information science.

Learning Outcomes
After passing the course the student should be able to, concerning:

Knowledge and understanding
1.1 Explain central theories, concepts, and problems with relevance to the subject of information science.

Competence and skills
2.1 Use central theories, concepts, and problems with relevance to the subject of information science.
2.2 Independently conduct an in-depth study in a chosen problem area of information science.
2.3 Independently use scientific databases to search for and critically analyse research with relevance to the subject of information science.

Judgement and approach
3.1 Analyse and relate to issues of ethics and sustainable development with relevance to the subject of information science.
3.2 Source critically evaluate research in relevant databases and other types of information sources.

Forms of Teaching
Tuition is conducted through
- lectures
- seminars

The language of instruction is English.

Forms of Examination
Seminar:
Learning outcomes: 1.1

Credits: 1,5
Grading scale: Pass or Fail (U-G)

Seminar:
Learning outcomes: 3.1
Credits: 1,5
Grading scale: Pass or Fail (U-G)

Written assignment:
Learning outcomes: 1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2
Credits: 4,5
Grading scale: A-F

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

The course literature is in English.

Bawden, D., & Robinson, L. (2022). Introduction to information science (2 ed.). London: Facet Publishing. (384 p.) [Electronically available]

Buckland, M. (2012). What kind of science can information science be? Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, 63(1), 1–7. [Electronically available]

Makri, S. (2020). Information informing design: Information science research with implications for the design of digital information environments. Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology, 71(11), 1402–1412. [Electronically available]

Nolin, J. (2010). Sustainable information and information science. Information Research, 15(2). [Electronically available]

Self-selected literature totalling approximately 200 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 part of Master's programme in information science: digital environments.

This syllabus is a translation from the Swedish original.