



# UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG

## FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

### **AG2340, Research Methods for International Administration and Global Governance, 15,0 higher education credits**

Forskningsmetoder för International Administration and Global Governance, 15.0 högskolepoäng

*Second Cycle*

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#### **1. Confirmation**

The course syllabus was confirmed by Faculty of Social Sciences on 2009-10-13 to be valid from 2010-09-01.

*Field of education:* Social Sciences 100 %

*Department:* Department of Political Science

#### **2. Position in the educational system**

The course is given within the Master Programme in International Administration and Global Governance and is a compulsory course. The course may also be taken as a free-standing course if space is available.

*Main field of studies*

International Administration and Global Governance

*Specialization*

A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

#### **3. Entry requirements**

Students enrolled in the masters program in International Administration and Global Governance (IAGG) are eligible for Research Methods for International Administration and Global Governance. The requirement for admission to the course is completion of the two IAGG core courses or equivalent course work totalling 30 higher education credits.

In addition, admission requires fluency in English. This requirement is filled if the language of an applicants undergraduate studies was English, or through English B level or English proficiency equivalent to IELTS 6.0 (no part under 5.0) or TOEFL (minimum 550), or TWE (score 4).

#### **4. Course content**

The course presents and offers practical training in methodological approaches relevant to the field of international administration and global governance. The course will begin with an exploration of issues of

general relevance to empirical investigation in the social sciences, such as epistemology, research design, research ethics, and an overview of research methods. In the second part of the course, the focus will be on specific research methods, with an emphasis on quantitative research methods. The course consists of both lectures as well as instructor led hands on training in the use of research methods. To the extent possible, course assignments employ data relevant to international policy issues in order to familiarize students with the potential and limitations of existing data.

## 5. Learning outcomes

After completing the course the students is expected to be able to:

### 1. Knowledge and understanding Understand the power and limitations of various research methods

- Understand the power and limitation of various research methods
- Evaluate the validity and reliability of secondary data sources
- Evaluate and independently design data collection methods such as surveys, field experiments, and interviews

### 2. Skills and abilities

- Evaluate, specify and test hypotheses and explanatory models
- Understand and apply quantitative methods such as regression analysis

### 3. Judgment and approach

- Identify and assess ethical issues related to research on human behaviour
- Design and plan an independent research project using quantitative and qualitative methods

## 6. Literature

See appendix.

## 7. Assessment

Progress on the learning outcomes related to knowledge and understanding as well as those related to judgment and approach will be evaluated through written and oral assignments that entail, among other things, evaluating existing policy research and policy relevant data, as well as planning original data collection. Learning outcomes related to skills and abilities will be evaluated via written and oral assignments involving carrying out and presenting research results. A student who has failed an assignment twice has the right to change examiner, if it is possible. A written application should be sent to the Department.

## 8. Grading scale

The grading scale comprises Fail (U), Pass (G), Pass with Distinction (VG).

In order to receive a passing grade, students must complete and receive a passing grade on all obligatory assignments in the course.

## 9. Course evaluation

A written course evaluation will be conducted on the final day of the course. The results of the evaluation will be communicated to the students and will function as a guide for the development of the course. Any changes made in the course subsequent to students comments will be communicated both to previous and incoming students

**10. Additional information**

Language of instruction: English.

## **AG2340, Research Methods for International Administration and Global Governance**

Alla (circa 70 studenter): Loseke, Donileen R. (2003). *Thinking about Social Problems*. New York: Aldine de Gruyter. Second Edition.

Marshall, Catherine & Rossman, Gretchen B (2011). *Designing Qualitative Research*. Thousand Oaks: SAGE. Fifth Edition.

Nagy Hesse-Bibier, Sharlene & Leavy, Patricia (2011). *The Practice of Qualitative Research*. Thousand Oaks: SAGE. Second Edition.

Yin, Robert (2009). *Case Study Research. Design and Methods*. Thousand Oaks: SAGE. Fourth Edition.

Kvantspåret (circa 35 studenter): Christopher Dougherty "Introduction to Econometrics" Oxford University Press 2007.

Jorgensen, Marianne & Phillips, Louise (2002). *Discourse Analysis as Theory and Method*. Thousand Oaks: SAGE.