



GRADUATE SCHOOL

GM0512 Research Methods, 7.5 higher education credits

Research Methods, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by School of Business, Economics and Law on 2008-06-02 and was last revised on 2015-08-13 to be valid from 2015-08-31, autumn semester of 2015.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Graduate School

Position in the educational system

The course can be part of the following programmes: 1) Master of Science in Management (S2MAN), 2) Program in Environmental Social Science (S1SML), 3) Master of Science in Knowledge-based Entrepreneurship (S2KEN), 4) Master of Science in Marketing and Consumption (S2MAC), 5) Programme in Logistics management (S1LOM), 6) Master of Science in Accounting (S2ACC), 7) Master of Science in Economics (S2ECO), 8) Master of Science in Finance (S2FIN), 9) Programme in Business and Economics (S1HEG), 10) Master of Science in International Business and Trade (S2IBT), 11) Master of Science in Logistics and Transport Management (S2LOG) and 12) Master of Science in Innovation and Industrial Management (S2IFM)

Main field of studies

Accounting

Logistics and Transport Management

Specialization

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

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Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course Research Methods the participant must fulfil the entrance qualifications for the Master of Science programme in Logistics and Transport Management. For programme specific entrance requirements, see programme syllabus.

Learning outcomes

After completion of the course, the student is expected to be able to:

1. Understand the nature, advantages, and limitations of different scientific and methodological approaches.
2. Identify relevant methodological approaches in relation to research problems.
3. Use various data collection methods and analytical techniques.
4. Critically and constructively analyse research.

Course content

This advanced course in Research Methods provides insights into various scientific and methodological approaches as well as some practical training. The methodological approaches covered include several qualitative and quantitative approaches, such as: problem analyses and the formulation of research questions, sampling techniques, data collection methods, survey design, interview techniques, observation methods, data analysis and interpretation. Additionally, the course will address how to write and communicate scientific reports. After completion of the course students will be able to formulate a research question and identify a relevant methodological approach in relation to a research problem.

Form of teaching

Teaching will take place in form of lectures, laborations, group works and seminars.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

Learning outcomes 1-4 will be examined through

- * written reports and
- * participation in seminars and
- * an individual exam.

A student needs to get at least a pass on all assignments, or compensatory assignments, to receive a Pass or High Pass as a grade. Some reports and presentations will be only graded as pass/fail. The overall grade will be based on the total score on graded group assignments and the individual exam. The group assignments make up 25% of the total achievable score and the individual exam 75%.

If a student, who has failed the same examined component twice, wishes to change examiner before the next examination, a written application shall be sent to the department responsible for the course and shall be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

In cases where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student shall normally be guaranteed at least three examination occasions (including the ordinary examination) during a period of at least one year from the last time the course was given.

Examination possibilities will be offered at least five times during the course of each two year period. Students who have made five unsuccessful attempts to pass an examination have lost the possibility of obtaining the Master of Science Degree.

Grades

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

For Pass on the course, 50% of the total of the points that are possible to achieve will be needed as well as Pass on all written reports and oral presentations. For Pass with Distinction, 75% of the total of the points that are possible to achieve will be needed as well as Pass on all written reports and oral presentations.

Course evaluation

The course will be evaluated upon completion.

The results of and possible changes to the course will be shared with students who participated in the evaluation and students who are starting the course.