



GRADUATE SCHOOL

GM0540 Research Methods, 7.5 credits

Forskningsmetoder, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Graduate School on 2022-06-30 to be valid from 2022-08-29, autumn semester of 2022.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Graduate School

Position in the educational system

The course Research Methods is a course within the Master of Science programmes at the Graduate School, School of Business, Economics and Law, University of Gothenburg.

Main field of studies

Logistics and Transport Management

Specialization

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

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

On successful completion of the course the student will 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 assessed through three assignments (two in group and one individual), and participation in seminars.

Individual assignments and exams shall be written individually, cooperation in formulating text, tables, figures etc. is not allowed.

The seminars are mandatory. If the course coordinator agrees that the reason for absence or non-submission of compulsory elements is valid, then the missing elements can be replaced with alternative assignments.

A failed assignment can be supplemented to a Pass grade.

If a student who has twice received a failing grade for the same examination component wishes to change examiner ahead of the next examination session, such a request should be made to the department in writing and should be approved by the department unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6 Section 22 of the Higher Education Ordinance).

If a student has received a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg for study support for students with disabilities, the examiner may, where it is compatible with the learning outcomes of the course and provided that no unreasonable resources are required, decide to allow the student to sit an adjusted exam or alternative form of assessment.

In the event that a course has ceased or undergone major changes, students are to be guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the ordinary examination

session) over a period of at least one year, but no more than two years after the course has ceased/been changed.

The number of examinations is limited to five.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Excellent (A), Very good (B), Good (C), Satisfactory (D), Sufficient (E) and Fail (F).

Pass is required on all examination forms. The grade (A-E) corresponds to the total score a student obtains on the assignments and seminars. To receive a pass grade (A-E) $\geq 50\%$ points is required. The scale is tied to fixed score intervals:

A: 85-100%

B: 75-84%

C: 68-74%

D: 60-67%

E: 50-59%

F: $<50\%$

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.