



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

KGA131 Qualitative and quantitative geographical method, 7.5 credits

Kvalitativ och kvantitativ geografisk metod, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Economy and Society on 2020-06-16 to be valid from 2021-01-18, spring semester of 2021.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Department of Economy and Society

Position in the educational system

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Master's Programme in Geography (N2GEO)

Main field of studies

Human and Economic Geography

Specialization

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

Entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

1. explain qualitative and quantitative methods used in geography.

Competence and skills

2. apply qualitative and quantitative methods to address geographical research questions.

Judgement and approach

3. critically discuss and evaluate qualitative and quantitative methods used in geography.

Course content

The course is conducted in the form of the individual student designed mini-study whose main content reflects the application and evaluation of qualitative and quantitative methods in geography. At the beginning of the course, the student plans the mini-study and discusses the plan with the course's teachers and other students at a seminar. As part of the mini-study, the student then applies both qualitative and quantitative methods. The student chooses, within certain limits, focus and study objects. The work with the mini-study is followed up continuously during supervision and seminar meetings. Lectures are also given focusing on the methods used in the mini-study. The course concludes with a final seminar where each student actively participates and discusses his/hers and other students' mini-studies. The course provide students with a solid grounding upon which to conduct a thesis, and also for use in their subsequent careers.

Form of teaching

Lectures, literature studies, seminars, supervision, peer review and practical application of methods. Peer review means that students on the course read and comment on each other's work.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The learning outcomes of the course are examined through one written examination paper and active participation in the course seminars. If a student has not participated actively in one or more of the course seminars, a written supplement shall be made according to the examiner's instructions.

A student who has taken two exams in a course or part of a course without obtaining a pass grade is entitled to the nomination of another examiner. The student needs to contact the department for a new examiner, preferably in writing, and this 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 special educational support, where it is compatible with the learning outcomes of the course and provided that no unreasonable resources are required, the examiner may

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 same applies to placements and professional placements (VFU), although this is restricted to just one additional examination session.

Grades

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

To pass the course (A-E), attendance at compulsory parts is required as well as at least a sufficient results (E) on the written assignment. The grade on the course as a whole is set in relation to the established grade scale.

Course evaluation

A course evaluation is done anonymously at the end of the course. When planning the next course, consideration will be given to the results of the evaluation.

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.

Additional information

The course uses a virtual learning platform for digital communication (Canvas) between teachers and course participants. Therefore, access to a computer and internet is required.

The course may not be included in the degree together with the course KGA111.