



DEPARTMENT OF PEDAGOGICAL, CURRICULAR AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

PDA185 Introduction to Educational Research Practice, 15 credits

Introduktion till utbildningsvetenskaplig forskningspraktik, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Pedagogical, Curricular and Professional Studies on 2019-12-19 and was last revised on 2020-12-18 to be valid from 2021-01-18, spring semester of 2021.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Department of Pedagogical, Curricular and Professional Studies

Other participating department

Department of Education and Special Education

Position in the educational system

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) International Master's Programme in Educational Research (L2EUR)

Main field of studies

Education with Specialization in Educational Research

Specialization

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

Entry requirements

Bachelor's degree in Education or equivalent in Social Sciences or Humanities (180 credits). Applicants must also prove their knowledge of English: English 6/English B from Swedish Upper Secondary School or the equivalent level of an internationally recognized test, for example TOEFL, IELTS.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- reflect on and engage in activities, theories, concepts, methods and analyses used in specific Education-based research communities,
- conduct critical analyses of research articles.

Competence and skills

- identify and evaluate central aspects of educational research practice,
- situate educational research in relation to sustainable development goals.

Judgement and approach

- reflect on the student's own emerging research identity in relation to educational research practice,
- clarify the research ethics and sustainability of research practices.

The course is sustainability-related, which means that at least one of the learning outcomes clearly shows that the course content meets at least one of the University of Gothenburg's confirmed sustainability criteria.

Course content

In this course students will develop an understanding of the day-to-day work of different researchers and their collaborators in the Faculty of Education. This includes studying actual research activities, theories, concepts, methods and analyses, along with critical reading activities.

Students will come to reasoned judgment about the research ethics of ongoing or recent research, and they will consider the extent to which research effort responds to sustainability goals.

Students will also present on research-related tasks and participate in seminars that draw upon critical reading of relevant articles.

Form of teaching

The course is taught in a combination of lectures, seminars and workshops.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

Learning is assessed through the following assignments:

1. A group presentation of learning and experience from engaging in a research community. Nb: If the presentation is missed, one other opportunity (plus a maximum of two resits where needed) will be offered.
2. An individual written report.

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: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

To receive the grade Pass on the course, all the course assessments need to be graded Pass (G).

To receive the grade Pass with Distinction (VG), the group presentation must be graded with Pass (G) and the final individual written report must be graded with Pass with Distinction (VG).

Course evaluation

Course evaluation is integral part of the course. Course participants will be invited to evaluate the course via a short online survey or paper questionnaire. Course evaluations are anonymous. The results will be communicated to the students and will function as a guide for further development of the course.