Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Sports Science

Syllabus

Research Methods in Sport Science

Course Code:	IDAM05
Course Title:	Research Methods in Sport Science *Idrottsvetenskapliga forskningsmetoder*
Credits:	15
Degree Level:	Master's level
Progressive Specialisation:	Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1N)

Major Field of Study:
IVA (Sports Science)

Course Approval
The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2021-09-07, and is valid from the Spring semester 2022 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites
90 ECTS credits completed, including at least 30 ECTS credits at the G2F level or higher, in one of the following main areas of study: Sports Science, Public Health Science, Pedagogy, Psychology, Sociology, or a teaching degree of at least 180 ECTS credits, plus upper secondary level Swedish 3 or Swedish as a second language 3, and English 6 or B, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:
1. discuss conditions for generating knowledge in sports science,
2. in an in-depth manner, problematise and explain the starting points of scientific theories and methods and their applicability in the field of sports science,
3. apply scientific methods in the field of sports science in order to collect, compile, process, and analyse data,

4. reason about and critically examine the reliability of scientific studies in the field of sports science,
5. reflect upon the role of the researcher and ethical aspects of research efforts using different scientific approaches,
6. identify and formulate research problems in relation to national and international research in sports science, and
7. independently create a research plan which describes and justifies various scientific and methodological choices in relation to a selected problem area in sports science.

Content
The aim of the course is for students to acquire an in-depth understanding of how basic research principles can be applied to sports science problems. Special weight is placed on how systematic research and research-related work methods can be used in sports and health coaching contexts.

In relation to the application of various methods, the course covers the following:
- the ontological and epistemological starting points of scientific methods and theories
- scientific problematisation of research questions
- methods for data collection and analysis tested in practice
- principles for good scientific practice and ethical guidelines
- different approaches to and principles for assessing the knowledge claims and validity of research studies
- planning a scientific study on a sports science problem

Throughout the course, students work with both group assignments and individual tasks. Teaching and supervision take place in meetings on campus and in the virtual learning environment.

Reading List
See separate document.

Examination
Assessment is based on individual written hand-in assignments and active participation in a seminar.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

Grades
One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course.

Quality Assurance
Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate
A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information
The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.