



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Information Systems

Syllabus

Planning and communicating an IS research project

Course Code:	ISAD22
Course Title:	Planning and communicating an IS research project <i>Planera och kommunicera ett forskningsprojekt i informatik</i>
Credits:	7.5
Degree Level:	Master's level
Progressive Specialisation:	Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1N)

Major Field of Study:
IKA (Information Systems)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2026-02-16, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2026 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Bachelor degree in Information Systems or Computer Science. In addition, either upper secondary level English 6 or English level 2. An equivalence assessment can be made.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. give an account of the research approaches case study, action research, and design science research (DSR) in information systems,
2. plan empirical research in groups in accordance with one of the research approaches case study, action research, or design science research (DSR), using project management methodology,
3. present arguments and results of research planning orally, in writing, and visually in an established scholarly form,
4. reflect on how the choice of media affects the communication of scholarly work and research results,
5. critically assess the relevance and value of information systems research to society, including gender equality and sustainability, and
6. design a plan for communicating research activities and results.

Content

The course expands on students' methodological knowledge acquired at the Bachelor level. Students who have taken other methods courses at the Master level can develop the research proposals submitted for these courses. As a basis for Master level studies, this course enhances theoretical, practical, as well as methodological skills.

Students design an empirical study with an emphasis on discussing and giving arguments for how the choice of approach (case study, action research, or DSR) can clarify the research question, how data obtained from such research can be analysed, and how relevance to society can be formulated and critically assessed based on research questions and results. Students work in groups to practice their project management and interpersonal communication abilities. In particular, problem solving in groups and group dynamics are treated. Students also develop academic writing skills and skills in presenting research approaches visually and in writing. The course includes how research projects can be communicated in articles, applications, poster presentations, and interactive demonstrators, as well as the role of mass media in various academic debates.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Learning outcome 1 is assessed based on an individual written assignment.

Learning outcomes 2-6 are assessed based on a group assignment presented and discussed in a seminar, an individual poster presented orally in a seminar, and an individual written project journal.

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 VG (Pass with Distinction), G (Pass), or U (Fail) 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.