



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Educational Work

Syllabus

Research Methods II

Course Code: PAAUM7

Course Title: Research Methods II
Vetenskapliga metoder II

Credits: 15

Degree Level: Master's level

Progressive Specialisation: Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1F)

Major Field of Study:

PGA (Educational Work)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2018-02-15, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2018 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Master programme in Educational Leadership and School Development 30 ECTS cr completed including PAAUT5, 15 ECTS cr and PAAUT6, 15 ECTS credits, or equivalent.

Learning Outcomes

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

- problematise and explain the assumptions of research theories and methods in depth as well as their suitability for different types of research issues,
- apply adequate research methods to a research project linked to school activities and quality assurance,
- critically review, assess and make research ethical decisions in relation to choice of method, theory, data processing, analysis and the presentation of results,
- analyse and abstract empirical data and present results based on such an analysis,
- critically review and assess the reliability of research results and analysis, and
- relate their research results to relevant national and international research fields.

Content

The aim of the course is that students develop further understanding of research methods and their theoretical basis and apply theories and methods to an empirical study regarding learning, teaching and/or leadership.

The course has a focus on the ontological and epistemological basis of research methods and a problematisation of research issues, operationalisation and a selection of data collection methods. Different perspectives on data analysis are treated and tested practically. Research ethical issues as well as issues of validity and reliability are treated throughout the course.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on a written and individual practice-related hand-in assignment. Additional material may be required if the submissions do not meet the outcome requirements.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or 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.