



Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

SLUkurs

Syllabus

PLG0017 Research design for PhD-students, 3.0 credits

Syllabus approved

2009-06-16

Subjects

Statistics, Computer Science and Systems Science

Education cycle

Third cycle

Grading scale

Pass / Failed

The requirements for attaining different grades are described in the course assessment criteria which are contained in a supplement to the course syllabus. Current information on assessment criteria shall be made available at the start of the course.

Language

English

Prior knowledge

Accepted as PhD-students or planning to be a PhD-student within half a year after the course starts. The course is also open for teachers/researchers at SLU depending on places available. PhD-students will be prioritised in lack of places.

Objective, including learning outcomes

The aim of the course is to give an introduction and overview of different research strategies and methods in general as well as within the faculty. Quantitative and

qualitative methods will be discussed and related to ongoing or planned research projects as well as course literature. On completion of the course, the PhD- student will have more profound knowledge about research design and the possibilities and limits of different kind of research methods and strategies. In that way the student will be better prepared to design and perform their own research projects.

Content

The course will consist of lectures, seminars, group discussions, excursions and visits to the main research environments at the faculty.

The lectures will present and discuss fundamental aspects of research design within natural sciences as well as social science and the humanities. Quantitative methods (experimental designs, inquiries, statistical analysis) as well as qualitative methods (case-study, methodology, grounded theory, narratives) will be discussed. Invited researchers will present their own work from a research design perspective. The homework consists of independent work, where course participants reflect and link their own postgraduate project to aspects of research design discussed in lectures, seminars and course literature. Course participants' independent work will be discussed during a concluding seminar.

Requirements for examination

Active participation in lectures and seminars. Presentation of an individual paper consisting of critical reflections of a selected scientific article in relation to own postgraduate project. Critical assessment of papers presented by the other course participants.

Additional information

The course is a full time course and gives 3 credits (Higher Education Credits).
Number of participants 6 - 20 students.

Last date for application: 31st of October 2009.

Responsible department

Faculty of Landscape Architecture, Horticulture and Crop Production Science