



Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet  
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

# SLUkurs

## Syllabus

**PNG0091 Cross-disciplinary perspectives, 2.0 credits**

## Syllabus approved

2020-09-10

## Subjects

Other Social 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 a PhD student.

## Objective, including learning outcomes

Having completed the course the PhD student will have:

- Reflected on his/her own PhD project from cross-disciplinary perspectives
- Practiced analysing other PhD projects in order to identify potentials and

obstacles to joint cross-disciplinary project

- Be able to analyse scientific articles from various kinds of disciplines and sub-disciplines with regard to different ways of writing, source criticism, references and other differences.
- Identified examples of potential obstacles that may occur in various cross-disciplinary projects
- Improved ones openness to find ways to overcome various problems in cross-disciplinary projects.

## **Content**

Cross-disciplinary perspectives are often asked for but it is no easy task. The aim with this course is to introduce PhD students to cross-disciplinary ways of thinking and to pros, cons and challenges with this kind of approach. The course is web-based and primarily intended for SLU's PhD students in various parts of Sweden and around the world. PhD students from all kinds of natural science, humanities and social science are welcome to this course, to create a melting pot of cross-disciplinary views! The course has its point of departure in the participants' PhD projects and includes:

- Individual reflections and analyses of the participants' PhD projects from cross-disciplinary perspectives
- Identification of similarities between the different PhD projects in the course, irrespective of how different the projects may appear at first sight.
- Identification and group discussions (brain storming) of potential cross-disciplinary projects on basis of the included PhD projects
- Source criticism in various kinds of disciplines and contexts
- Various scientific cultures and how these may vary between sub-disciplines, countries, etc.
- Comparison of scientific articles by other scientists in various disciplines and disciplines in order to identify and analyze differences in character, references, and other aspects that may provide obstacles when collaborating in cross-disciplinary projects.
- Potentials and obstacles to work cross-disciplinary in a world of disciplines? Publishing? Conferences? Positions? Depth and/or width?
- Interviews of course colleagues and other people at SLU and/or other universities about various aspects on cross-disciplinarity.
- Individual written assignment about a more general cross-disciplinary issue

**Requirements for examination**

Continuously, throughout the course.

**Additional information**

This course is part of the research school Social Science Perspectives on sustainable Development, an umbrella organization between the Department of Economics and the Department of Urban and Rural Development.

Application to the course should be sent to Carin Martiin, [carin.martiin@slu.se](mailto:carin.martiin@slu.se) be written in English and include:

- name, affiliation, full address, e-mail and phone number
- name and affiliation of PhD supervisor

**Responsible department**

Department of Economics