

P000170, Förberedelser inför färdigställandet av doktorsavhandlingen och kappa, 3.0 Hp

Kursplan

Fastställd av: Fastställd av: Jens Rommel, 2026-02-05, 2026-02-05

Giltig från och med: 2026V

Utbildningsnivå:

Forskarnivå

Språk:

Svenska

Behörighetskrav:

Registered as a doctoral student at SLU. The focus is on social sciences (including but not limited to Economics). The course is designed to be relevant for doctoral students who are beyond the half-time seminar.

Mål:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Critically appraise the qualities of alternative research approaches within their field, and justify their own choices among them.
- Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of alternative research designs within their field, and critically reflect on their own research design.
- Identify ethical challenges arising in their own research and be able to account for their treatment in doctoral research.

- Reason for and critically reflect on the contribution to knowledge of their own doctoral research.
- Plan an effective thesis argument and corresponding structure.

Innehåll:

This course explores the challenges of writing the summarising chapter ("kappa") for a compilation thesis, and considers how to prepare to write it. The course clarifies the purpose of the kappa, and the significance of its strong unifying narrative.

The unifying role of the thesis narrative is considered in the context of the whole PhD research process, emphasising how it integrates the research design, gathers the main elements of research activity and outputs together, clarifies the scholarly contribution, and establishes the line of argument that this contribution relies on. The course also addresses how the thesis narrative responds to formal requirements, and how it anticipates the PhD assessment and defence.

Emphasis is placed on the relations between the kappa structure and narrative, the underlying research design, and the constituent papers. The course contents are also designed to be largely relevant for those preparing a monograph thesis.

The course is built around the work in progress of the participating doctoral students and is divided into three elements:

- **Individual preparation**, including two exercises exploring the potential argument and structure of the thesis, background reading on doctoral thesis writing, and submission of a draft thesis outline.
- **Classroom teaching block (4 days / 20 hours)**, adopting an interactive workshop format with presentations, small group and plenary discussions, collaborative exercises, and contributions from experienced supervisors and recently graduated doctoral researchers.
- **Individual and some peer-group follow-up work**, including an online tutorial with the course leader.

Participants are encouraged to consult with their supervisors throughout the course period.

Examinationsformer och fordringar för godkänd kurs:

To pass the course, all of the following elements must be completed:

- Submission of a working draft kappa outline and completion of two associated exercises before the classroom block.
- Active participation in the classroom sessions.

- Attendance at an individual tutorial, including a brief oral presentation on how the student has identified and engaged with key challenges in establishing the argument and contribution of their own thesis.
- Examinatorn har, om det finns skäl och är möjligt, rätt att ge en kompletteringsuppgift till den student som inte blivit godkänd på en examination.
- Om studenten har ett beslut från SLU om riktat pedagogiskt stöd på grund av funktionsnedsättning, kan examinatorn ge ett anpassat prov eller låta studenten genomföra provet på ett alternativt sätt.
- Om denna kursplan läggs ned, ska SLU besluta om övergångsbestämmelser för examination av studenter, som antagits enligt denna kursplan och ännu inte blivit godkända.
- För examination av självständigt arbete (examensarbete) gäller dessutom att examinatorn kan tillåta studenten att göra kompletteringar efter inlämningsdatum. Mer information finns i utbildningshandboken.

Ansvarig institution/motsvarande:

Institutionen för ekonomi

Kompletterande uppgifter

Övrig information:

- Rätten att delta i undervisning och/eller handledning gäller endast det kurstillfälle, som studenten blivit antagen till och registrerad på.
- Om det finns särskilda skäl, har studenten rätt att delta i moment som kräver obligatorisk närvaro vid ett senare kurstillfälle. Mer information finns i utbildningshandboken.