



DEPARTMENT OF PEDAGOGICAL, CURRICULAR AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

FOU1805 Research ethics, 7.5 credits

Forskningsetik, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Third-cycle level / Forskarnivå

Confirmation

This syllabus was confirmed by the Department of Pedagogical, Curricular and Professional Studies on 2018-06-13, and was last revised on 2019-02-25. The revised course syllabus is valid from Spring semester 2019.

Responsible Department

Department of Pedagogical, Curricular and Professional Studies, Faculty of Education

Entry requirements

To qualify for admission to the course, the student has to be registered as a PhD student. In the case where there are more qualified applicants than the number of seats, priority will be given to students at the Faculty of Education.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course, the third-cycle student is expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Explain how ethical issues are actualized with regard to research in educational sciences.
- Analyze and discuss theoretical and practical dimensions of good research practice with regard to central concepts within research ethics.
- Give an account of and analyze research regulations and basic and fundamental research principles which are presented in official documents published by, for example, the Swedish Research Council.

Competence and skills

- Analyze and discuss research ethical principles and regulation frameworks with regard to ethical theory as well as research practice.

- To make visible and to analyze ethical dilemmas within research in educational sciences.
- Analyze and discuss ethical issues regarding publication of research.

Judgement and approach

- Give an account of ethical issues and challenges regarding the students' research fields and analyze and discuss them with reference to research ethical considerations and principles.
- Analyze and discuss how dimensions of power can be treated within research in the educational sciences, for example when children and young informants are involved.
- Give an account of the regulation framework of research ethical committees and discuss these with regard to imaginary or actual drafts for proposals.

Course content

The aim of the course is to develop knowledge about ethical issues that can and should be raised in connection with, in particular, educational science research in national as well as international contexts. Issues relating to law and morality in the field of research are the focus of the course content. Ethical theory is introduced as a basis for approaching research ethical problems and challenges. Laws, regulations and research ethical principles are studied and related to educationally relevant research areas and with reference to concepts that are central within research ethics. Dimensions of power with regard to the relation between researcher and informants are highlighted. Questions relating to good research practice are analyzed with regard to research ethical considerations and principles, and ethics testing and the application for ethical examination are considered, taking into account, among other things, the ethics committee's regulations. Ethical issues, challenges and dilemmas related to different approaches, designs and methods used within educational science research are exemplified and discussed. Research ethical issues related to, for example, digital contexts, data storage and publication of research and research results are highlighted and discussed in relation to laws and regulations as well as to concrete examples.

Types of instruction

Lectures and seminars

Language of instruction

The course is given in Swedish but can be given in English if necessary.

If there are English-speaking students, the medium of instruction will be English.

Grades

The grade Pass (G) or Fail (U) is given in this course.

Types of assessment

Seminar discussions and individual presentations.

Course evaluation

Course evaluation is conducted together with the participants, partly on a continuous basis and partly at the end of the course. The evaluation will be taken into account in the implementation of the current course as well as in the development and planning of future courses.

Other information

Course book list is available in an appendix. The course FOU1900 (Introduction to Research ethics) is a part of this course.