FOU1807  Research foundations of subject-matter didactics I, 7.5 credits
Ämnesdidaktikens vetenskapliga bas I, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Third-cycle level / Forskarnivå

Confirmation
This syllabus was confirmed by the Department of Pedagogical, Curricular and Professional Studies on 2018-09-24, and is valid from Autumn semester 2018.

Responsible department/equivalent
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.

The course is obligatory for PhD students in subject-matter education, but can also be relevant to PhD students in related fields.

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

Knowledge and understanding
• show broad knowledge of the historical development of subject-matter didactics within the orientation that is relevant to the student's studies

Competence and skills
• identify, reflect on and create contact points and relationships between the student's own
subfield of subject-matter didactics and other subfields of subject-matter didactics, as well as the didactic tradition in general
• identify, analyse and critically evaluate research questions in subject-matter didactics, particularly in the PhD student’s own orientation
• orally present a scientific line of development within the PhD student’s own orientation

Judgment and approach
• reflect on ethical issues in research in relation to scientific articles

Course content
The aim of the course is, based on the Swedish, Nordic and continental tradition, to highlight the emergence of the different fields in subject-matter didactics that the PhD students belong to by virtue of their different orientations. We work with discussions and reflections around three circles of primarily historical literature: texts with direct relevance to the PhD student’s study that places it in a scientific line of development, texts that have been formative for the field of subject-matter didactics that the PhD student belongs to, and texts that provide a comprehensive perspective on didactic traditions. Given the wide variety of interests that exist within these traditions and the actual variation between the PhD students, there are rich possibilities for becoming familiar with and discussing each other’s perspectives during the course. This will provide opportunities to problematise the scientific foundations of subject matter didactics.

Types of instruction
The main teaching methods are seminars and discussions with invited researchers and literature discussions in PhD student groups.

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

Grades
The grade Pass (G) or Fail (U) is given in this course.
Pass means that the learning objectives have been achieved. Where necessary and upon request, certificates of grades according to the ECTS scale can be issued.

Types of assessment
The course is evaluated through active participation in seminars, which involves being sufficiently prepared ahead of the seminar so that discussions meet the course objectives. The course ends with a seminar discussion on the written examination assignment, where participants show that they have achieved the course objectives.

Course evaluation

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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.