



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

FOU1811, Action Research in theory and praxis, 7.5 credits

Aktionsforskning i teori och praktik, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Third-cycle level / Forskarnivå

Confirmation

This syllabus was confirmed by the Department of Education and Special Education on 2018-07-05, and was last revised on 2024-09-30. The revised course syllabus is valid from Autumn semester 2024.

Responsible Department

Department of Education and Special Education, Faculty of Education

Entry requirements

For admission to the course, the doctoral student has to be registered as student in the third cycle. In the case of more qualified applicants than the number of places, admission to postgraduate studies at the Faculty of Education is given priority.

Learning outcomes

After completed course the student should be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- account for methodological principles for action research and relate these to research projects carried out in own practice
- identify and account for changes in practice and what research methods are used to gather empirical evidence in the action research process

Competence and skills

- analyze and assess various aspects in action research in relation to practice-based research
- analyze and compile all parts of the action research process based on selected research question and in particular pay attention to one's own learning

Judgement and approach

- assess and critically review the theoretical and practical relevance of action research
- problematize ethical aspects of an action research project carried out in one's own practice

Course content

Action research as an idea, tradition and movement is presented and discussed in relation to studies that are carried out in own practice. An overview is presented of different specializations in action research. The specializations are treated in relation to scientific theoretical assumptions to provide an orientation of where action research can be placed among scientific traditions.

The action research spiral is the basis for supervision of the doctoral students when they anchor, initiate and carry out various parts of the action research process. Knowledge gained from practice is processed in a learning process, which aims to perspective the view of the work and the organization where the action research is carried out and thereby develop knowledge.

Types of instruction

The course's main working methods are lectures and literature seminars as well as supervision in small groups of the doctoral students' own studies.

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.

Types of assessment

The course is examined by the doctoral student completing a written paper in which their own chosen problem, actions, research methods and results are to be described and their own learning paid special attention. The work must be related to methodological points of departure in action research. The work is presented orally in a group and the oral examination includes that the doctoral students review another work and contribute with constructive criticism.

Course evaluation

At the course close, course participants will be invited to evaluate the course. Course evaluations are anonymous. The results will be communicated to the students and will function as a guide for further development of the course.