FOU1815 Research interviews, 7.5 credits
Forskningsintervjuer, 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.

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

Knowledge and understanding
Give an account of and discuss different approaches in relation to research interviews.
Discuss possibilities, limitations and difficulties of research interviews in relation to the purpose of the research.

Competence and skills
Problematize and evaluate research studies in which interviews are central.
Show an ability to conduct interviews and analyse interview material as part of their own research.

Judgment and approach
Analyse and critically discuss their own interviews in relation to epistemological and ethical
considerations.

**Course content**
The course aims to develop the participants' familiarity with and ability to use interviews in their research. This ranges from working with, and reflection on, craftsmanship in conducting interviews, through the possibilities and limitations of interviews in practice, principle and theory, to possible approaches to the analysis of interview-based material. The first part is devoted to an overview of the nature of the research interview, as well as the opportunities and conditions associated with it. This connects to practical work with a critical discussion of various techniques and methodologies for interviews and documentation of these, as well as how interviews can be represented and processed through transcription and/or analysis software, exemplified by the student carrying out an interview of their own. The second part focuses on theoretical approaches, epistemological and ethical considerations, methods for analyzing, interpreting and processing interview material, and possible results. Students may choose a main approach to specialize in. In parallel with these two parts, we work throughout the course on reading, analyzing and evaluating studies where interviews are central.

**Types of instruction**
The main teaching methods are lectures and seminars conducted on the university campus. The lectures and seminars will cover literature on research interviews.

**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. The grading scale comprises the grades Pass (G), Fail (U). The grade Pass means that the learning outcomes have been achieved. If necessary and on request, a certificate stating the grade according to the ECTS scale can be issued.

**Types of assessment**
The course is examined through a final task that is presented orally and in writing, where all elements are discussed in relation to the student's own thesis. This presupposes participation in the different meetings and the completion of several individual tasks, such as carrying out an interview, presenting literature on interview methodology, and analyzing interview material.

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