



SCHOOL OF GLOBAL STUDIES

SFGS315 Research Design in Qualitative Inquiry, 7.5 credits

Forskningsdesign i kvalitativ forskning, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Third-cycle level / Forskarnivå

Confirmation

This syllabus was confirmed by the Department of Global Studies on 2019-01-17, and was last revised on 2023-10-09. The revised course syllabus is valid from Spring semester 2024.

Responsible Department

School of Global Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences

Entry requirements

In order to be eligible for the course the applicant must fulfill the general entry requirements for postgraduate studies. A good command of English is vital.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- identify central research design approaches in qualitative research;
- discuss the advantages and disadvantages of different designs;

Competence and skills

- discuss and problematize the ways in which other researchers/students address research design in their research;
- identify and discuss relevant design approaches of one's own research project;

Judgement and approach

- describe and argue for the design of their own project;
- assess the implications of their own design choices.

Course content

This course is focused on questions about research design in qualitative research. In-depth studies of one case and/or case-based comparative analysis, often based on qualitative data, constitute cornerstones in social science research. During the course different types and purposes of case studies, principles behind case-selections and design of studies, as well as process-tracing and different understandings of causal mechanisms and how it might be used for research, will be addressed and discussed.

The course aims to help PhD candidates to critically assess and discuss research design approaches in qualitative research as well as to develop the research design for their own dissertation project. The course content is in part adapted to the individual candidate's needs related to methodological considerations and research design proposal.

Types of instruction

The course is taught with a mix of lectures, readings, seminars, and the writing of papers.

Language of instruction

The course is given in English.

Grades

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

Types of assessment

The course is examined on the basis of:

- Oral presentation of the state on research design in their field of interest;
- Written and oral peer-review of the other PhD candidates' proposal of research design;
- The PhD candidate's own proposal of research design.

Course evaluation

A course evaluation is carried out after completion of the course.