

Theory of Science and Applied Research Methods, Second Cycle, 15 HE credits
Vetenskapsteori och tillämpade metoder, avancerad nivå, 15 hp

Established: 2019-12-17

Established by: School of Business, Economics and IT

Applies from: H20

Learning outcomes

The student shall develop:

In-depth knowledge and understanding to:

- Explain advanced theoretical problems, and school of thoughts, with relation to social science in general, and political studies in particular research.
- Explain how research questions within social science are identified as relevant, and the strategies to enhance the relevance.
- Describe the elements of the research process, such as research design, method, and analysis.
- Explain qualitative and Quantitative strategies for collection and analysis of data.

In-depth skills and abilities to:

- Independently formulate and conceptually motivate a research problem within the field of social science and political studies.
- Independently identify and compose a suitable theoretical framework to study selected research problems, with a focus on applied science and method.
- Select a suitable research design to study selected research problems.
- Identify and use a suitable data collection method, and analytical tool, to study a selected research problem, with a focus on applied science and method

In-depth ethical ability to:

- Identify ethical principles, specifically for research and analysis within the field of political science.

Entry requirements

Bachelor degree with a major in Political Science, or equivalent.

The forms of assessment of student performance

The course is examined several components including, individual oral examination, written seminar assignments, and a written preliminary research proposal.

Course contents

The course module include the following main components:

1. Introduction to theory and method
2. Qualitative and Quantitative perspective and approaches
3. Applied research theory and method
4. Research Design

Other regulations

Course grading: F/Fx/E/D/C/B/A - Insufficient, Insufficient- more work required before the credit can be awarded, Sufficient, Satisfactory, Good, Very Good, Excellent

Course language: The teaching is conducted in English.

A student who does not fully meet the learning outcomes of a non-supervised examination (hemtentamen), but is close to the grade “pass” can, after a decision by the examiner, be allowed to complement (kan skriva supplement eller revise också) an examination assignment in order to reach the criteria for pass. For supervised examination (salstentamen) complementing is not allowed. Complementing of an examination must be individually adapted based on the learning outcomes or objectives that were not achieved by a student. It must take place within two weeks after informing the student of the examination result and before the next examination opportunity.

General rules pertaining to examination at University West are set out in the Examination Guidelines (www.hv.se)

Course Overlap

Read about course overlap in the Swedish version of this course syllabus.

Cycle

Second cycle

Progressive specialization

A1N - second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Main field of study

Work Integrated Learning