



Course syllabus

Faculty Board of Science and Engineering
School of Engineering

4YT002 Yrkeskunnande, kunskapsbildning och
professionsutveckling, 15 högskolepoäng

Skill, knowledge formation and development of professions, 15
credits

Main field of study

Skill and Technology

Subject Group

Other Interdisciplinary Studies

Level of classification

Second Level

Progression

A1N

Date of Ratification

Approved by the Board of the School of Engineering 2012-03-12

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2012

Prerequisites

Basic qualifications for the studies on the advanced level and 4YT001 Theory and method of skill and technology, or corresponding qualifications.

Objectives

Expected learning outcomes in the first part of the course, Relation between practical and theoretical knowledge, 7,5 hp

After completing this course the student should be able to:

- describe and discuss in detail concrete working life situations where theoretical and practical knowledge can not be reduced to each other
- compare individual and collective knowledge and independently reflect on differences between them
- present their own view of the meaning of the concept of reflective practice and discuss differences and similarities between several other meanings of this concept
- be able to account for and reflect on how the knowledge the student has acquired in the course can influence his or hers professional practice.

Expected learning outcomes in the second part of the course, Case study on professional practice, 7,5 hp

After completing this course the student should be able to:

- show ability to carry on a case study and adapt the case study methodology to the specific conditions at his or her working place
- propose improvements of the professional practice at his or hers working place departing from the conducted case study.

Content

The course is divided in two parts:

Relation between practical and theoretical knowledge, 7,5 credits and Case study on professional practice, 7,5 credits. The scientific essay as a form of scientific writing is studied in further detail as well as how different types of research methods can be used for collection of empirical data in the case studies about practical professional knowledge. During the course students are given a possibility of being supervised in arranging of their own dialogue seminars aiming at the improvement of professional practices at their own work places.

Contents of the first part of the course, Relation between practical and theoretical knowledge, 7,5 hp:

Central topics that this course will cover:

- a critical study of the classical paradigmatic example of the view that practice can be reduced to theory and formalized knowledge: Frederick Taylor's Principles of scientific management
- the concept of intersubjectivity: knowledge dwells between people and is cultivated in the communities of reflective practices
- skill, language and concept formation: essentially contested concepts
- the concept of reflective practice

Contents of the second part of the course, Case study on professional practice, 7,5 hp

- the knowledge of the case study methodology acquired so far in the programme is applied in the study of a specific problem, a question or a dilemma from the student's own professional practice

Type of Instruction

The teaching is arranged through 2-3 physical two-days meetings comprising of lectures and dialogue seminars. Additional studies are conducted in connection to the own case study, through the reading and through the presentations of written assignments, individually and in the group, on the web-based learning platform. The obligatory assignments are established in connection with the course start.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).

The course is assessed with the grades fail The examination is conducted individually, both through the oral examination and through the assessment of students' essays.

Course Evaluation

A written evaluation is conducted and compiled in a report, which is filed at the department. The results are presented to the students in the way most appropriate according to the teacher responsible for the course. Other types of evaluations, such as continuous oral communication with the students, can occur and is encouraged to secure continuous quality improvement.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Required reading

First part of the course – Relation between practical and theoretical knowledge:

Taylor, Frederick Winslow, Principles of scientific management, Digireads.com Publishing, 2008 (1st ed. 1911)
Göranzon (red), Den inre bilden: aspekter på kunskap och handling, Stockholm: Carlssons, 1988

Second part of the course – Case study on professional practice

Janik, Allan. Cordelias Tystnad: Om Reflektionens Kunskapsteori. Stockholm: Carlsson, 1991.

Additional material provided by course leaders is also included.