



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Department of Cultural Sciences

2BO605 Aktuella forskningsproblem i biblioteks- och informationsvetenskap, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Current Research Problems in Information Studies, 7.5 credits

Main field of study
Library and Information Science

Subject Group
Library and Information Science

Level of classification
First Level

Progression
G2F

Date of Ratification
Approved by Faculty of Arts and Humanities 2019-06-18
The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2020

Prerequisites
120 credits in Library and Information Science, which may include 30 credits from the course 1BO550.

Objectives

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- describe library and information science as a field of knowledge and research,
- account for central sub-fields in library and information science,
- discuss the relation between theory, method and results in academic studies,
- analyse factors influencing the development in a chosen sub-field in library and information science.

Content

This course aims to present an overview of research in library and information science, its research questions, methods and theories, and how these have changed over time. The course discusses the development of methods, empirical material and theories in library and information science, focusing on the most important sub-fields. The course also includes an introduction to research fields in library and information science, and the student has the opportunity to specialise in a research field of their own choice. The course aims to develop students' abilities to retrieve and evaluate research literature. The student conducts a systematic literature review on the basis of in-depth studies of a chosen field in an individual assignment.

Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of lectures, seminars and supervision. Teaching is

normally delivered in Swedish, but parts of the teaching may be delivered in English.

Examination

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

The course is examined through a written systematic literature review (5 credits) and seminar assignments (2.5 credits). In order to receive the grade of Pass, the student must achieve the objectives. Grading criteria for the grade of Pass with Distinction will be specified when the course starts. For students who do not pass their first examinations, retake examinations are provided in accordance with Local regulations for courses and examinations at the first and second levels at Linnaeus University.

If the university has decided that a student has the right to special educational support due to a disability, the examiner may offer an adapted test or allow the student to conduct the test in an alternative form.

Course Evaluation

At the end of the course, a course evaluation is conducted. Results and analysis of the course evaluation are communicated to the students who have taken the course. Students who are taking the course when it is offered the next time are informed of the results at the start of the course. The evaluation is anonymous.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Bates, M. B. (the latest edition) "The information professions: knowledge, memory, heritage". *Information Research*, 20(1). 30 p. (no page numbers)

Buckland, M. (the latest edition) "What kind of science can Information Science be?". *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*, 63(1), pp. 1–7. 6 p.

Eriksson Barajas, K., Forsberg, C. & Wengström, Y. (the latest edition). *Systematiska litteraturstudier i utbildningsvetenskap: vägledning vid examensarbeten och vetenskapliga artiklar*. Stockholm: Natur och Kultur. 100 p. (selection)

Hjörland, B. (the latest edition) "Library and Information Science: practice, theory, and philosophical basis". *Information Processing and Management*, 36, pp. 501–531. 30 p.

Leckie, G. J., Given, L. M. & Buschman, J. E. (the latest edition) *Critical theory for library and information science – exploring the social from across the disciplines*. Libraries Unlimited. 150 p. (selection)

Nolin, J. & Åström, F. (the latest edition) "Turning weakness into strength: strategies for future LIS". *Journal of Documentation*, 66(1), pp. 7–27. 20 p.

Research articles chosen in consultation with the teacher. ca 400 p.