



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Department of Cultural Sciences

2BV350 Aktuella forskningsproblem, 7,5 högskolepoäng

2BV350 Current Research Problems, 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 2023-06-14

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2024

Prerequisites

60 credits in library and information science.

Objectives

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

- describe library and information science as a field of knowledge and research
- present and describe the most important subfields within library and information science
- discuss the relationship between theory, methodology, and findings in research studies
- analyse factors influencing the development of a chosen subfield within library and information science over time.

Content

The course aims to introduce students to current research in library and information science, what research questions are posed, what methods and theories are employed, and how these have evolved over time. The course covers the methodological, empirical, and theoretical developments within library and information science, with a focus on its key subfields. It provides an overview of central research areas in library and information science, with an opportunity for specialisation in a research field within

the discipline, chosen by the student. The course also aims to enhance the student's ability to search for and evaluate research literature. A systematic literature review is conducted based on in-depth studies of a chosen area, as part of an assignment completed either individually or in pairs.

Type of Instruction

Instruction is delivered in the form of lectures, seminars, and supervision, using digital tools. Lectures and assignments will be available on the course online learning platform. Instruction is normally in Swedish, but may also be in English or Scandinavian languages other than Swedish.

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 of 5 credits and seminar assignments of 2.5 credits. In order to receive a passing grade, the student must achieve the course objectives. Grading criteria for a Pass with Distinction are specified in writing when the course starts.

Resit examination is offered in accordance with Local regulations for courses and examination at the first- and second-cycle levels at Linnaeus University. If the university has decided that a student is entitled to special study support due to a disability, the examiner has the right to give a customised exam or to have the student conduct the exam in an alternative way.

Course Evaluation

During or shortly after the course, a course evaluation is conducted. Results and analysis of the course evaluation are promptly 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. Course evaluation is anonymous.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Bates, Marcia B. (2015) "The information professions: knowledge, memory, heritage". *Information Research*, 20(1). 30 pp. (no pagination)

Buckland, Michael (2012) "What kind of science can Information Science be?". *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*, 63(1), pp. 1–7. 6 pp.

Eriksson Barajas, Katarina, Forsberg, Christina & Wengström, Yvonne (the latest edition). *Systematiska litteraturstudier i utbildningsvetenskap: vägledning vid examensarbeten och vetenskapliga artiklar*. Stockholm: Natur och Kultur. 100 pp. (in selection)

Hjörland, Birger (2000) "Library and Information Science: practice, theory, and philosophical basis". *Information Processing and Management*, 36, pp. 501–531. 30 pp.

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

Nolin, Jan & Åström, Fredrik (2010) "Turning weakness into strength: strategies for future LIS". *Journal of Documentation*, 66(1), pp. 7–27. 20 pp.

Research articles chosen in consultation with the instructor. Approximately 400 pages.