



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Department of Design

4DI721 Aktionsforskning och interaktiva metoder, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Action Research and Interactive Methods, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

Design

Subject Group

Design

Level of classification

Second Level

Progression

A1F

Date of Ratification

Approved by Faculty of Arts and Humanities 2015-01-26
The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2015

Prerequisites

The course Methodology in Project Work 7.5 credits, and English B/English 6, or the equivalent.

Objectives

After completing this course the student is expected to be able to:

- describe and value interactive methods with respect to an innovation project
- plan the implementation of an interdisciplinary innovation project together with representatives from different businesses
- orally, in writing and visually communicate with representatives from different businesses
- reflect upon and assess the importance and consequences of choice of method, possibilities and limitations, its role in society and people's responsibilities for how it is being used
- identify a need for further knowledge in design theoretical and practical aspects
- make assessments from ethical and sustainability perspectives.

Content

The course consists of:

- the theory of science
- an orientation in different traditions within interactive methodology and its applications
- interactive methods in an innovation process
- tools for communication and communication strategies

- aspects of validity, reliability, credibility, ethics and sustainability in research processes.

Type of Instruction

The course consists of lectures, workshops and seminars based on the different perspectives presented by the participating disciplines. The course is connected to the mandatory project work which is supported by supervisors from all disciplines. Some tasks are provided in cooperation with project organizations. Obligatory lectures, workshops and seminars are stated in the schedule.

Examination

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

Examination is carried out through a project report, individual reflection reports, oral presentation and active participation in discussion seminars. Results are graded using one of the terms Passed with distinction, Pass or Fail, and A-F according to the ECTS scale. For the grade pass, the objectives have to be reached; the grade is based upon the degree to which the objectives are met. The weighing of the grades to the course grade is following the principles in the document "Principer för betygsrapportering dnr: ELNU 2011/160". Students who do not pass the regular examination are given the opportunity to re-examination in accordance with the university's local rules.

Course Evaluation

A written course evaluation is carried out and compiled in a report, which is archived at the faculty. The results and possible measures taken are communicated by the course coordinator and presented to the students the next time the course is given, or in another way deemed suitable by the course coordinator. Other types of course evaluations, for example regular evaluations throughout the course or discussions with students, will be included and encouraged with the aim of ensuring continuous quality development.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Required reading

Antvik, S. & Sjöholm, H. *Project management and methods*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. Latest edition. 170 pages.

McNiff, J. & Whitehead, J. *All you need to know about action research*. London: SAGE. Latest edition. 274 pages.

Merriam, S. B. *Qualitative research : a guide to design and implementation*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. Latest edition. 304 pages.

Rererence reading

Björk, L. A. & Räisänen, C. *Academic writing: a university writing course*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. Latest edition. 399 pages.

Chalmers, A. F. *What is this thing called science?*. Indianapolis: Hackett Pub, cop. Latest edition. 316 pages.

Hannington, B. & Martin, B. *Universal Methods of Design - 100 Ways to Research Complex Problems, Develop Innovative Ideas, and Design Effective Solutions*. Rockport Publishers Inc. Latest edition. 208 pages.

van Maanen, J. *Tales of the Field: On Writing Ethnography*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Latest edition. 216 pages.

van Aken, J., Berends, H. & van der Bij, H. *Problem solving in organizations*. New York: Cambridge university press. Latest edition. 245 pages.