



Course syllabus

School of Business and Economics
Department of Organisation and Entrepreneurship

4FE163 Aktionsforskning och interaktiva metoder, 7,5
högskolepoäng

Action Research and Interactive Methods, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

Business Administration

Subject Group

Business Administration

Level of classification

Second Level

Progression

A1F

Date of Ratification

Approved by School of Business and Economics 2015-05-13

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2016

Prerequisites

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

Objectives

After completing the 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 the responsibilities people have for how it is being used
- identify a need for further knowledge
- make assessments from ethical and sustainability perspectives

Content

The course contains:

- 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 (Business, Engineering and Design). 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 parts are stated in the schedule.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades A, B, C, D, E, Fx or F.

Examination is carried out through a project report, individual reflection reports, oral presentation and active participation in discussion seminars.

The grade A constitutes the highest grade on the scale and the remaining grades follow in descending order where the grade E is the lowest grade on the scale that will result in a pass. The grade F means that the student's performance is assessed as fail.

After each regular examination there will be at least one new examination in close proximity to the date the results of the regular exam were posted. A minimum of five occasions for written exams will be offered in relation to the syllabus to which the student was accepted. Usually three occasions per academic year are offered. Students that fail reports can complement after instructions from the examiner to obtain a pass grade.

Grading criteria for the A–F scale are communicated in writing to the student by the start of the course/module at the latest, as well as how grades on separate elements of examination are weighed to a final course grade.

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.

Credit Overlap

This course cannot be part of a degree in combination with another course in which the content fully or partly correspond to the content of this course: The course overlaps 4FE043 with 100 %.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Required reading

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

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

Checkland, P. & Poulter, J., (2006). *Learning for action. A short definite account of soft systems methodology and its use for practioners, teachers and students*. Wiley and Sons, England. ISBN: 13978-0-470-02554-3. 226 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.

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.

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

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

Van de Ven, A-H., (2007). *Engaged scholarship: A guide for organizational and social research.* ISBN 9780199226306 (pbk alk paper) Oxford ; Oxford University Press, Engelska xii. 330 pages.