



Course syllabus

School of Business and Economics

Department of Management

4FE163 Aktionsforskning och interaktiva metoder, 7,5 högskolepoäng

4FE163 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 2015-05-13

Revised 2022-12-05 by School of Business and Economics. Change of department
The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2023

Prerequisites

General entry requirements for second cycle studies and specific entry requirements: current course Methodology in *Project Work*, 7.5 credits, or the equivalent. 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. All examination elements cover all objectives for the course.

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. 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 the weighting and weighting of grades on individual examining elements to the final course grade takes place. The basis for the student's grade is determined by the student's fulfillment of the objectives.

Repeat examination is offered in accordance with Local regulations for courses and examination at the first and second-cycle level at Linnaeus University. Students who are close to the passing grade of reports can complement after instructions and time-frame given by the examiner to obtain a pass grade.

If the university has decided that a student is entitled to special pedagogical 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 the implementation of the course or in close connection to the course a course evaluation is to be carried out. Result and analysis of the course evaluation is to be presented as feedback both to the students who have completed the course and to the students who are to participate on the course the next time it is offered. The course evaluation is to be carried out anonymously.

Credit Overlap

The course cannot be included in a degree along with the following course/courses of which the content fully, or partly, corresponds 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. About 170 pages.

Björk, L. A. & Räisänen, C. *Academic writing: a university writing course*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. Latest edition. About 400 pages.

Chalmers, A. F. *What is this thing called science?*. Indianapolis: Hackett Pub, cop. Latest edition. About 320 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.

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. About 210 pages.

McNiff, J. & Whitehead, J. *All you need to know about action research*. London: SAGE. Latest edition. About 270 pages.

Merriam, S. B. *Qualitative research : a guide to design and implementation*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. Latest edition. About 300 pages.

van Aken, J., Berends, H. & van der Bij, H. *Problem solving in organizations*. New York: Cambridge university press. Latest edition. About 250 pages.

Van Maanen, J. *Tales of the Field: On Writing Ethnography*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Latest edition. About 220 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.