



## Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences  
Department of Education

4PE704 Empirisk forskning och teoribildning II, 7,5 högskolepoäng  
Empirical research and theories II, 7.5 credits

### **Main field of study**

Education

### **Subject**

Education

### **Level**

Second cycle

### **Progression**

A1F

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved 2021-01-27.

Revised 2025-12-01. The prerequisite requirements have been supplemented with subjects according to GY25.

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2026.

### **Prerequisites**

General entry requirements for second-cycle studies and specific entry requirements: 90 credits within the main field of study Education, or equivalent main field of study including an independent project comprising at least 15 credits, or a Bachelor or Master of Arts in Education, including a degree project. Swedish B and English A. Or: Swedish level 3, English level 1 or the equivalent.

### **Objectives**

Upon completion of the course, students shall be able to:

- account for and demonstrate advanced knowledge of the disciplinary foundation

as it is reflected in empirical research and theories within the specialisation of general education, working life and adult learning, didactics and learning, teachers' practice, special education or social pedagogy,

- on the basis of the chosen specialisation, conduct a fundamental discussion on the relation between theory and empiricism and the relation to best practice.

## Content

Students shall learn how to find and compile relevant international research material in databases and how to analyse and assess the relevance of the research with reference to theories and methods. The relation between theory, empiricism and best practice is also looked into.

## Type of Instruction

Teaching takes place in the form of lectures and seminars.

## Examination

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

Examination of the course objectives takes place by means of two oral presentations in seminars, and a written assignment.

In order to receive a grade of Pass in the course, the course objectives must be attained. For a grade of Pass with Distinction in the course, the written assignment requires the grade of Pass with Distinction.

A retake of the examination is provided in accordance with the Local Regulations for First-Cycle and Second-Cycle Courses and Examination at Linnaeus University.

Should the university determine that a student is entitled to special educational support due to impairment, the examiner may provide the student with an adapted test or the student may carry out the examination in an alternative way.

## Course Evaluation

A course evaluation is carried out either during or at the end of the course. Results and analysis of the evaluation are presented to the students who have completed the course as well as to new students at the following course date. The course evaluation is conducted anonymously.

## 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:  
4PE601 Empirical research and theories, 15 credits.

## Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Newman, Mark & Gough, David (2020) *Systematic Reviews in Educational Research: Methodology, Perspectives and Application*. Springer. (pp. 3-22). DOI: 10.1007/978-3-658-27602-7.1.

Rienecker, Lotta & Jørgensen, Peter S (Latest edition). *Att skriva en bra uppsats*. Samfundslitteratur och Liber. ISBN 97847111510. The chapter "Litteratur- och informationsökning" (19 pages).

Selected publications also included, relevant to the chosen specialisation (at least 200 pages).