



Course syllabus

Faculty of Technology

Department of Forestry and Wood Technology

4TS343 Aktionsforskning och interaktiva metoder, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Action Research and Interactive Methods, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

Mechanical Engineering, Forest and Wood Engineering

Subject Group

Forest Science

Level of classification

Second Level

Progression

A1F

Date of Ratification

Approved by Faculty of Technology 2015-05-13

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2016

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:

- from a technical perspective 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
- 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 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.

Students who do not achieve a satisfactory result in the examinations are permitted to make a second attempt approximately 5-8 weeks after the normal examination date.

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 (i.e. received the grade F).

Course Evaluation

During the course or in close connection to the course, a course evaluation is to be carried out. The result and analysis of the course evaluation are to be communicated to the students who have taken the course and to the students who are to participate in the course the next time it is offered. The course evaluation is carried out anonymously. The compiled report will be filed at the Faculty.

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: 4TS043

Other

Grade criteria for the A–F scale are communicated to the student through a special document. The student is to be informed about the grade criteria for the course by the start of the course at the latest.

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.

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

Checkland, Peter and Poulter, John (2006) *Learning for action. A short Definitive Account of Soft systems methodology and its use for Practitioners*, Teachers and Students, Wiley and Sons, England, ISBN: 13978-0-470-02554-3

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, Engaged scholarship : a guide for organizational and social research / Andrew H. ISBN 9780199226306 (pbk alk paper)Oxford ; Oxford University Press, 2007, Engelska xii, 330 s.