

Qualitative Research Methods

Single subject and programme course

6 credits

Kvalitativa forskningsmetoder

729G07

Valid from:

Determined by
The Quality Board at the Faculty of Arts
and Sciences

Date determined
2007-06-18

Revision date
2016-08-25

Main field of study

Cognitive Science

Course level

First cycle

Advancement level

G1X

Course offered for

- Bachelor's Programme in Cognitive Science

Entry requirements

For admission to the course, the specific entry requirements that apply to the Bachelor's Programme in Cognitive Science must be satisfied, and the course Research Methodology and Statistics, or the equivalent, must be completed.

Intended learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student should be able to

- give an account of the background of qualitative method in theory of science,
- design qualitative inquiries in accordance with scientific practice,
- use interviews and observations to gather qualitative data,
- analyse qualitative data by means of specific methods of analysis,
- critically review qualitative research articles.

Course content

The course focuses on qualitative method as a research strategy based on the following four main areas:

(1) History: On the emergence of qualitative method in human science. Special focus is here on the positioning of qualitative method in relation to quantitative method inspired by natural science.

(2) Research Design: On how you as a researcher design qualitative studies in accordance with scientific practice. Key elements in this area include the formulation of appropriate research questions, selection, ethics etc.

(3) Data Collection Methods: On how you as a researcher can collect qualitative data in different ways. In this area, particular emphasis is different forms of interviews and observations, but other collection methods are also discussed.

(4) Analytical Methods: On how you as researchers can process the qualitative data in different ways. Here the focus is primarily on studies grounded theory, interpretative phenomenological analysis and conversation analysis. The close links between the choice of research design, data collection method and analysis is emphasized throughout the course.

Teaching and working methods

Teaching takes the form of lectures, seminars and group work. The student is expected to study independently, individually or in groups.

Examination

The course is examined through individual written assignments.

Students failing an exam covering either the entire course or part of the course twice are entitled to have a new examiner appointed for the reexamination.

Students who have passed an examination may not retake it in order to improve their grades.

Grades

Three-grade scale, U, G, VG

Other information

Planning and implementation of a course must take its starting point in the wording of the syllabus. The course evaluation included in each course must therefore take up the question how well the course agrees with the syllabus. The course is carried out in such a way that both men's and women's experience and knowledge is made visible and developed.

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Department

Institutionen för beteendevetenskap och lärande