Communication, Ethics and Sustainable Development

Programme course

6 credits

Kommunikation, etik och hållbar utveckling

THEN24

Valid from: 2017 Spring semester

Determined by
Board of Studies for Electrical
Engineering, Physics and Mathematics

Date determined
2017-01-25

Main field of study

Other subjects

Course level

First cycle

Advancement level

G1X

Course offered for

- Materials Science and Nanotechnology, Master's programme
- Biomedical Engineering, Master's programme
- Communication Systems, Master's programme
- Electronics Engineering, Master's programme

Specific information

The course is not available for exchange students

Prerequisites

Students admitted to international master´s programmess.

Intended learning outcomes

The aim of the course is to help students become more effective speakers and writers in an academic context using English as the language of communication. Taking a holistic approach to communication which includes linguistic accuracy and appropriacy as well as incorporating the concepts of Ethics and Sustainable Development, it provides an opportunity to develop skills required for successfully completing a master's programme and pursuing a career in science and engineering. After completing the course, students are expected to

- be familiar with academic expectations and conventions
- be able to read, understand and summarise a general text or an academic article accurately
- be able to systematically analyse and critically appraise research articles
- critically and constructively examine other students' work
- formulate, organise, and present ideas and opinions in English with accuracy, clarity, and coherence
- understand and use an appropriate referencing system
- identify and analyse their own linguistic strengths and weaknesses, and develop and apply strategies to improve their competence to communicate successfully in English
- be aware of differences in communication processes among cultures, identify challenges that arise from these differences, and find ways to address them in intercultural interactions
- be able to present and discuss ethical challenges connected to the engineering profession, technological development and its applications
- be able to explain central theories, principles, and concepts within normative ethics, and apply these to particular cases and situations
- be able to present and discuss the economic, social, and environmental pillars of sustainability
- reflect upon and think critically about sustainability and sustainable practice in their own field of study.

Course content

The course will include grammar exercises, vocabulary building work and texts and articles to read and study. Some of these texts will be of a general, scientific and technical nature, while later in the course more programme specific articles related to sustainable development and ethics can be used.

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Teaching and working methods

The course will be organised in two general parts. Both parts will require students
to prepare work at home and to read and study a number of texts and academic
articles.

The first part will consist of lessons during which English is approached on a more
micro-level. The focus will be on accuracy at sentence level and grammar revision
and practice will be central. The structures that are most commonly found in
technical and scientific texts will be studied and emphasized and standard
academic terminology will be introduced and practised.

The second part of the course will take a more macro-level approach and students
will be expected to produce original texts themselves. These texts will then be
discussed and subject to peer review and classes will take the form of seminars.
Sustainable development and Ethics will be addressed mainly through readings,
seminars and presentations.

The course runs the entire spring semester.

Examination

UPG2	Assignments ethics	1 credits	U, G
UPG1	Active participation in seminars. Assignments	2 credits	U, G
TEN1	Written examination	3 credits	U, 3, 4, 5

Grades

Four-grade scale, LiU, U, 3, 4, 5

Department

Institutionen för ekonomisk och industriell utveckling

Director of Studies or equivalent

Johan Holtström

Examiner

Pamela Vang

Education components

Preliminary scheduled hours: 40 h
Recommended self-study hours: 120 h

Course literature

Falk A. Thinking and Writing in Academic Contexts - A University Companion.
Studentlitteratur, 2011. Kompendium och artiklar

Common rules

Regulations (apply to LiU in its entirety)

The university is a government agency whose operations are regulated by legislation and ordinances, which include the Higher Education Act and the Higher Education Ordinance. In addition to legislation and ordinances, operations are subject to several policy documents. The Linköping University rule book collects currently valid decisions of a regulatory nature taken by the university board, the vice-chancellor and faculty/department boards.

LiU's rule book for education at first-cycle and second-cycle levels is available at http://styrdokument.liu.se/Regelsamling/Innehall/Utbildning_pa_grund-_och_avancerad_niva.