

RESEARCH METHODS, ADVANCED PRACTICE ORIENTED RESEARCH, 5 HEC

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

The course includes specialization in one or more research methods that are essential for the doctoral student's own thesis. This specific course focus on practice oriented research, e.g. collaborative, interactive, action and co-production research. The course contains the following elements:

- Background and development of practice oriented research
- Application of practice oriented research
- Evaluation of results that can be achieved with practice oriented research

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (ILO)

On completion of the course, the doctoral student should:

Knowledge and understanding

- be familiar with the background and development of the research methods in question
- display deeper knowledge of the research methods in question
- demonstrate comprehension of the application of the research methods in question within relevant research area

Skills and abilities

- demonstrate skills of planning a limited research task where the research methods in question is used

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate ability to motivate and judge when the research methods in question are appropriate to use
- demonstrate understanding of limitations with the research methods in question
- demonstrate ability to evaluate the results that can be achieved with the research methods in question

EXAMINATION

The examination consist of three tasks, of which the first one is individual and the latter two in group. All tasks are examined in writing and orally.

Assignment 1 (individual): Create a research plan

Each student shall write a research plan, describing in detail how a research project should be carried out. Start with a relevant research question and elaborate on appropriate research approach, techniques for data collection, how to interact with participants, how to work with data analysis, how to secure scientific quality and practical relevance, etc.....(to be described in detail)

Assignment 2 (group): Analysis of a method chapter in a published thesis using practice oriented research

In group, a method section is selected and scrutinized.

Assignment 3 (group): Seminar on selected branch of practice oriented research

In group, the students should select a specific branch of practice oriented research (e.g. collaborative, interactive, action and co-production research) and plan and carry out a seminar on that. The seminar should include background, techniques for data collection, how to work with data analysis, how to secure scientific quality and practical relevance, etc.

PRELIMINAR PLANNING

When	Topic	Description
<i>ToDo before meeting 1</i>		<i>Read the course book</i>
Meeting 1 15/1 2015 9-16	Introduction	Examination of the course book. Discussions.
	Lecture	Lecturing on the book content – widening the concepts, relating to other sources, related concepts
	Forming groups	Form groups for assignment 2 and 3
<i>ToDo before meeting 2</i>		<i>Read material from Lennart Svensson</i>
Meeting 2 27/1 2015 10-16	Lecture and seminars (Lennart)	Background, History, Development, Criticism of practice oriented research
	Lecture	To publish using POR (senior researcher, the library)
<i>ToDo before meeting 3</i>		<i>Assignment 2</i>
Meeting 3 4/3 2015 9-16 (depends on the number of groups)	Seminar	Assignment 2 is presented
<i>ToDo before meeting 4</i>		<i>Assignment 3</i>
Meeting 4 1 day 16/3 2015 alt 26/3 eller annan dag den veckan	Seminar	Assignment 3 is presented
	Lecture (Annika, Kicki, Jenny)	Data collection, data analysis, quality assurance in POR
<i>ToDo before meeting 5</i>		<i>Assignment 1</i>
Meeting 5 1 day 16/4 2015	Final seminar	Assignment 1: Presentation and discussion of assignment 1

COURSE MANAGEMENT

Examiner: Kristina Säfstén, Professor, JTH

Course responsible: Jenny Bäckstrand, Assistant Professor, JTH

Register for the course to Jenny Bäckstrand, jenny.backstrand@jth.hj.se, 036-101629

Last day for signing up is 25 November, 2014.

MANDATORY COURSE LITERATURE

Aagaard Nielsen, K, Svensson, L. (2006) *Action and interactive research: beyond practice and theory*. Maastricht: Shaker Publishing BV.

Handouts from Lennart Svensson, To be distributed.

OTHER RELEVANT READINGS (TO BE UPDATED)

- Aagaard Nielsen, K, Svensson, L. (2006) *Action and interactive research: beyond practice and theory*. Maastricht: Shaker Publishing BV.
- Bryman, A, Bell, E. (2007) *Business Research Methods*, Oxford University Press.
- Flick, U. (2006) *An Introduction to Qualitative Research*, Sage Publications, Thousand Oaks.
- Gummesson, E. (2000) *Qualitative Methods in Management Research*, 2nd ed., Sage Publication, Inc., Thousand Oaks, California.
- Karlsson, C. (ed) (2009) *Researching Operations Management*, Routledge, Taylor & Francis, Inc.
- Kvale, S. (1997) *Den kvalitativa forskningsintervjun*, Studentlitteratur, Lund.
- Miles, M. B. and Huberman, A. M. (1994) *Qualitative data analysis: an expanded sourcebook*, Sage Publications, Inc., Thousand Oaks, California.
- Salkind, N.J. (2009) *Exploring Research*, Pearson Higher Education.
- Yin, R. K. (2009) *Case study research: design and methods*, Sage Publications, Inc., 4th ed., Thousand Oaks, California.