

COURSE INFORMATION

Practice-oriented Research Methodology, 5 hec

Praktiknära forskningsmetodik, 5 hp

Introduction

This is an advanced course, meaning that a deeper knowledge within practice-oriented research methodology is aimed at. The course follows the general syllabus, in the disciplinary domain Industrial Product realization at School of Engineering, Jönköping University. The course is open for doctoral students from all subject areas.

The course includes specialization in practice-oriented research methodology. The course contains the following elements:

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

Learning outcome

On completion of the course the student must (according to general syllabus, vd-beslut 2021/008):

Knowledge and understanding

- be familiar with the background and development of practice-oriented research methodology
- display deeper knowledge of practice-oriented research methodology
- demonstrate comprehension of the application of practice-oriented research methodology within relevant research area

Skills and abilities

- demonstrate skills of planning a limited research task where a practice-oriented research methodology is used

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate ability to motivate and judge when practice-oriented research methodology is appropriate to use
- demonstrate understanding of limitations with practice-oriented research methodology
- demonstrate ability to evaluate the results that can be achieved with practice-oriented research methodology

Type of instruction

Lecture and seminars. Teaching is conducted in English or Swedish dependent on the requirements among participating doctoral students.

Prerequisites

Admitted to third-cycle programmes or equivalent. Basic knowledge on research methods in general is strongly recommended.

Examination and grades

The course is graded Fail or Pass. The examination consists of three assignments, of which the first one is individual and the latter two in group. Tasks are examined both in writing and orally. All assignments will be described in more detail when the course starts.

Name of the test	Value	Grading
Assignments	5 hec	U/G

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 method, techniques for data collection, how to interact with participants, how to work with data analysis, how to secure scientific quality and practical relevance, etc. Each student should also give qualified oral feedback on research plans written by two other doctoral students.

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

In group, a thesis using a practice oriented research method is selected. In this assignment focus is on the method-section of the thesis, which should be analysed and discussed in relation to problem, result, etc. With support from literature: create a foundation for the analysis (a “checklist” on how to evaluate research using practice oriented research). The result is presented at a seminar.

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 etc.) and plan and carry out a seminar on that. The seminar should at least include background, techniques for data collection, how to work with data analysis, how to secure scientific quality and practical relevance, etc. Please observe that if you have already done this type of assignment in a previous course, you have to select another branch of practice-oriented research.

Examination of the literature

The course starts with a group examination (tentamen) of the recommended set of articles.

Course Materials

Teams is used to store material and also provide a complementary online resource.

Name of Team: Practice Oriented Research methodology – S24

Teachers

Course responsible and Examiner: Associate Professor Jenny Bäckstrand, School of Engineering, Jönköping University (JB).

Lecturers:

Professor Árni Halldórsson, Chalmers

Assistant Professor Lisa Bäckvall, JTH

Assistant Professor Kristina Sollander, JTH

Preliminary schedule spring 2024

When	Topic	Description	Teachers
<i>ToDo before meeting 1</i>			
Meeting 1 17/4 2024 13-16	Introduction	Introduction of the course, presentations.	JB
	Lecture	Quality and validity with qualitative research/action research/interactive research + introduction to concept mapping	Árni Halldórsson
	Forming groups	Form groups for assignment 2 and 3	JB
<i>ToDo before meeting 2</i>		<i>Read the provided articles</i>	
Meeting 2 2/5 2024 13-16	Lecture	Lecturing on the course content – widening the concepts, relating to other sources, related concepts	JB
	Discussion	Examination of the article collection. Discussions	JB
<i>ToDo before meeting 3</i>		<i>Read material from Lisa</i>	
Meeting 3 7/5 2024 9-16	Lecture and seminar	Experiences of a practice-based dissertation study	Lisa Bäckvall
<i>ToDo before meeting 4</i>		<i>Assignment 2 + material from Kicki</i>	
Meeting 4 15/5 2024 9-16	Seminar	Assignment 2 is presented	JB
	Lecture	Data collection method – Shadowing	Kicki Sollander
<i>ToDo before meeting 5</i>		<i>Assignment 3</i>	
Meeting 5 5/6 2024 9-16	Seminar	Assignment 3 is presented	JB
<i>ToDo before meeting 6</i>		<i>Assignment 1</i>	
Meeting 6 19/6 2024 9-16	Final seminar	Assignment 1 is presented and discussed.	JB
		Wrap up and evaluation of the course	JB

Register for the course

Register for the course to Paula Lernstål da Silva.

Course literature

Mandatory

Collection of articles, TBA

McDonald, S., and Simpson, B. (2014). Shadowing research in organizations: the methodological debates. *Qualitative Research in Organizations and Management: An International Journal*, 9(1), 3-20. <https://doi.org/10.1108/QROM-02-2014-1204>

Other readings that might be relevant (Can be updated)

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

Adler, N., Shani, A. B. R., and Styhre, A. (Eds.). (2004) *Collaborative research in organizations: Foundations for learning, change, and theoretical development*, SAGE Publications, Inc., London, UK.

Antonacopoulou, E., Jarvis, P., Andersen, V., Elkjaer, B., and Høyrup, S. (Eds.). (2005). *Learning, Working and Living: Mapping the Terrain of Working Life Learning*. London, UK: Palgrave Macmillan.

Bryman, A, Bell, E. (2007) *Business Research Methods*, Oxford University Press.

Börjesson, S. (2012) Collaborative research for sustainable learning: the case of developing innovation capability at Volvo Cars, *Action Learning: Research and Practice*, Vol. 8, No. 3, pp. 187-209.

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.

Gunnarsson, E. Hansen, H.P., Steen Nielsen, B. and Sriskandarajah, N. (eds) (2015) *Action Research for Democracy - New Ideas and Perspectives from Scandinavia*, Routledge (Routledge advances in research methods; No. 17), New York.

Johannisson, B.; Gunnarsson, E. and Stjernberg, T. (red.) (2008) *Gemensamt kunskapande – den interaktiva forskningens praktik*, Acta Wexionensia Nr 149/2008, Växjö University Press, Växjö.

Karlsson, C. (ed) (2009) *Researching Operations Management*, Routledge, Taylor & Francis, Inc.

Karlsson, C. (2024). *Research Methods for Operations and Supply Chain Management* (3rd ed.). New York, NY: Routledge.

Kvale, S. (1997) *Den kvalitativa forskningsintervjun*, Studentlitteratur, Lund.

Maxwell, J. A. (2013) *Qualitative research design: an interactive approach*, SAGE Publications Inc.

Miles, M. B. and Huberman, A. M. (1994) *Qualitative data analysis: an expanded sourcebook*, Sage Publications, Inc., Thousand Oaks, California.

Pasmore, W., Stymne, B., Shani, A.B., Albers Mohrman, S., Adler, N. (2008) *Handbook of Collaborative Management Research*, SAGE Publications, Inc.

Phillips, L., Kristiansen, M., Vehviläinen, M., and Gunnarsson, E. (2013). *Knowledge and power in collaborative research: A reflexive approach*. Routledge.

Shani, A.B, Coghlan, D., Cirella, S. (2012) Action Research and Collaborative Management Research: More than Meets the Eye?, *International Journal of Action Research*, Vol. 8, No. 1, pp. 45-67.

Svensson, L., Ellström, P-E., Brulin, G. (2007) Introduction – in interactive research, *International Journal of Action Research*, Vol. 3, No. 3, pp. 233-249.