Generic knowledge and skills, MEPO003

12 credits  Third cycle

General information

The course is a compulsory component of the third-cycle programme and focuses on the generic knowledge and skills included in the programme. The course tasks are planned and completed individually by each third-cycle student, and the work takes place continuously throughout the programme. The assessment takes place when the request for a thesis defence has been submitted.

Language of instruction

Swedish or English

Objective

The aim of the course is to provide third-cycle students with an opportunity to attain and demonstrate degree outcomes not attained, or not generally assessed, through the thesis.

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the third-cycle students shall be able to

- identify and analyse challenges and issues in their own and others’ research, and propose ways to solve or manage these issues
- independently formulate a project plan including research issue, method and time plan
- reflect on the choice of method, and on strengths and weaknesses of the methodology applied in in their own research project
- describe the strategies used to obtain the knowledge required within the general subject and its methodology
- independently take responsibility for all the stages of the publication process
- reflect on their development of teaching skills and how they have used them to support the learning of others and adapted their teaching to different target groups, for example the wider society
- present and discuss research and research findings with collaborators and at conferences and seminars, and reflect on the quality and authority of the delivery
- reflect on the significance of collaboration, conferences and other research interactions for the quality of research and their own development of expertise
- reflect of the possible uses and routes for implementation of their own research results in wider society, and identify opportunities and risks associated with such use
- make research ethics assessments, assess the need for ethical review, and reflect on the meaning of academic integrity, providing examples from their own thesis project
• identify their own strengths and weaknesses, and reflect on different career paths and the knowledge and skills required for them
• reflect on their own development towards independence, particularly vis-à-vis their supervisors
• demonstrate understanding of and participation in administration, organisation and management of research and education

Course design

The course consists of individual studies and the outcomes are to be attained through the activities that the student engage in throughout the programme, together with the student’s own documentation and reflection on these activities in their portfolios. The student’s programme activities are defined in the individual study plan, which, like the portfolio, is structured around twelve categories (research process; research methodology; subject expertise; publication; teacher training and experience; conferences and seminars; national and international cooperation with the research community; cooperation with wider society; ethical issues; career development; supervision/supervisor; administration, organisation and leadership). The student is expected to work continuously and independently on their portfolios and document their experiences and development of competence in the twelve categories through descriptive and reflecting texts, attachments and other material. The portfolio enables the students to monitor their development and ask for feedback when needed.

The course is introduced in the introductory course and opportunities for further support is available in elective programme components. Students are recommended to use an online system for the portfolio, but are allowed to use another system for documenting and presenting the attainment of outcomes. An electronic collection of texts and supporting documents are available to aid in the portfolio work.

The portfolio is used as a basis for appraisals and revision of the individual study plan. It is followed up in conjunction with the midway review, when the student will receive feedback on the portfolio.

Assessment

The assessment of the portfolio takes place when the request for a thesis defence has been submitted. It is based on how the student demonstrates attainment of the learning outcomes through their selection and compilation of documented experiences, descriptive and reflecting texts, attachments and other material.

Grades

The grades awarded are Pass or Fail.

Admission requirements

To be admitted to the course, the student must be admitted to research studies.

Required reading

The required reading is specified for each student in their individual study plan.