

Course syllabus for PhD course

Course part of the research school: People, Society and Sustainability

Department of Economics/Department of Urban and Rural Development

Qualitative research methods

Swedish title: Kvalitativa forskningsmetoder

Higher education credits

5 HEC

Subject (choose between:)

Rural Development

Landscape Planning

Environmental Communication

Agrarian History

Other social science X

Possible Additional subject/subjects (optional)

Other social science

Course type

General course

Language

English

Prerequisites

Accepted as a PhD student

Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the students will be able to:

- Describe different qualitative research methods in social science
- Identify qualitative methods for data collection and analysis that are suitable for the PhD student's specific research project
- Discuss the role of theory in guiding data collection and analysis
- Reason around the wider implications for the research of choosing certain methods over others
- Actively reflect over ethics, positionality and reflexivity of relevance to different forms of qualitative research and specifically the PhD student's own research project

Content

The course will provide an overview of qualitative methods used in social science. The course is designed around joint reading, written submissions and joint discussions in weekly seminars, connected with the course literature and the PhD student's own research projects.

The seminars are the core of the course and represent an important co-learning environment, therefore we expect each PhD student to have read the assigned course literature, submit assignments on time and come prepared for each seminar.

In total the course is 5 credits which means that we expect the students to work approximately four weeks fulltime in total with the course.

Examination

- Active participation and presentation in the seminars
- Completed written assignments (five short individual submissions of text reflections and final assignment)
- Two oral presentations (during intro seminar and final seminar)

Contact for application and further information

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The course runs part time during the autumn 20205, with physical meetings between 13 Oct and 22 Nov. Maximum 10 students. Students at departments of Urban and Rural development and Economics, and students who can commit to be present physically in the classroom for all meetings will be given priority.

Literature

Mandatory readings

The core course book will be: Flyvbjerg, B. (2001). *Making social science matter: Why social inquiry fails and how it can succeed again*. Cambridge university press.

We suggest that all students buy this book

In addition will use several parts of: Bernard, H. R. (2017). *Research methods in anthropology: Qualitative and quantitative approaches*. Rowman & Littlefield.

A number of additional shorter mandatory texts will be added to these before the course start.

Additional Information

This course is part of the research school People, Society and Sustainability, a joined research school between the Department of Economics and the Department of Urban and Rural Development.