



1N5114 Vetenskapsteori och forskningsmetodik, samhällsvetenskap 7,5 hp

Theory of Science and Research Methodology, Social Science

Kursplan för 1N5114 gäller från och med VT09

Betygsskala:

Utbildningsnivå: Forskarnivå

Lärandemål

The course provides an introduction to the theory and methodology of science and is intended for the beginning PhD student. One aim is to supply the basic concepts needed for placing the techniques and knowledge acquired in the student's other courses in the wider context of the social sciences. Another aim is to provide the basic intellectual tools that allow for a reasoned and critical assessment of results and methods from the wide variety of disciplines that the student is likely to encounter during his or her continued career in research and/or in professional life.

The course is mainly focused on the general theoretical and methodological issues that arise in science, with an emphasis on the social sciences; but basic theoretical issues, techniques and problems from the natural and technological sciences are also covered to provide the student with a wider outlook. Emphasis is placed on the fundamental problems common to the social and natural sciences and on the general strategies, methods and concepts that modern science has developed to address these problems.

Kursens huvudsakliga innehåll

- Scientific knowledge
- Hypothesis testing
- Causes and correlations
- Observations and measurements
- Science and social science - A contrastive approach
- Explanations and source analysis
- The philosophy of economics
- Models
- Science for societal decision-making
- The development of science
- Research ethics

Undervisningsspråk

Undervisningsspråk anges i kurstillfällesinformationen i kurs- och programkatalogen.

Behörighet

Basic degree 180 hp.

Litteratur

- Malcolm Williams "Introduction to philosophy of social research"

- Sven Ove Hansson "The art of being scientific"

Examination

Krav för slutbetyg

- Participation in seminars, 1,5 hp
- Final exam 3 hp
- Project 3 hp