FAK3144 The Research Process, Introductory course 7.5 credits

Introduktion till forskningsprocessen

This is a translation of the Swedish, legally binding, course syllabus.

If the course is discontinued, students may request to be examined during the following two academic years

Establishment

Course syllabus for FAK3144 valid from Autumn 2019

Grading scale

P, F

Education cycle

Third cycle

Specific prerequisites

Eligible applicants are students who meet the requirements for admission to graduate studies in history or other humanities and social sciences.

Language of instruction

The language of instruction is specified in the course offering information in the course catalogue.

Intended learning outcomes

Following the course, the student should have attained basic knowledge and skills in:

- Searching for literature and source material.

- Formulating relevant and fruitful research questions.

- Writing a memo for a PhD project.

- Critically review, evaluate and give feedback.

The student should also be familiar with the structure and functions of academia, its institutions and disciplines, understand the requirements of a doctoral thesis, have obtained reflexive understanding of doctoral studies, academic research, and comprehended the formal administrative structure and regulations of KTH. Furthermore, students should learn the basic methods of archival research, oral history, and other research tools commonly used in history of science, technology and environment.

Course contents

The course provides a comprehensive and reflexive introduction to graduate education and academic life. Seminars and lectures include topics as (1) practical and formal aspects of financing and examination; (2) experiences of former PhD students and supervisors; (3) literature search and publishing; (4) academic writing and referencing; (5) ways of writing and presenting a doctoral thesis and a scholarly paper; (6) the academic milieu and the university as an institution; (7) the humanities and the research system as well as ethics. The main content also includes basic skills in archival research, oral history and other research tools commonly used in history of science, technology and environment. All students will develop a thesis memo during the course and have the opportunity to give and receive feedback on these.

Examination

- UPP1 - Written report, 7.5 credits, grading scale: P, F

Based on recommendation from KTH's coordinator for disabilities, the examiner will decide how to adapt an examination for students with documented disability.

The examiner may apply another examination format when re-examining individual students.

In order to pass the course the student should have attended and actively taken part in at least 80% of the seminars and presented several comments on the literature orally and in written form. The student must also present a thesis memo at the Division higher seminar and held a seminar opposition of another student's thesis memo.

Ethical approach

- All members of a group are responsible for the group's work.

- In any assessment, every student shall honestly disclose any help received and sources used.
- In an oral assessment, every student shall be able to present and answer questions about the entire assignment and solution.