

Department of Business Administration

EHFE005, Qualitative Methods,
7.5 credits
Kvalitativa metoder,
7,5 HP
Third Cycle/Forskarutbildningsnivå

General information

The course EHFE005 is a course in Business Administration at the third cycle level. The course is compulsory for PhD students accepted to the PhD programme in Business Administration at Lund University School of Economics and Management.

The course aims to provide a qualified understanding of some influential philosophy of science traditions with relevance for social science, commonly used qualitative research practices and the connection between philosophy and method.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies: Business Administration

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

A passing grade on the course will be awarded to students who:

- Demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding of key qualitative methodological approaches in the social sciences.

Competence and skills

A passing grade on the course will be awarded to students who:

- Can apply general knowledge of methodology to specific research projects, their own as well as others'.

Judgement and approach

A passing grade on the course will be awarded to students who:

- Show ability to reflect critically on the implications of different methodological stances and choices of methods in the course of empirical inquiry.

Course content

The course treats a number of sub-themes of significance in current methodological practices and debates, including empiricistic and interpretive approaches; critical research and feminism; poststructuralism; ethnography; discourse analysis; mystery creation in research; and reflexivity.

Course design

The course is designed as a series of seminars in which students engage in discussion of methodological perspectives, both in general and in relation to their own thesis projects.

Assessment

80 % attendance is called for in order to pass the course. Examination is by paper.

Credits

Grades are Pass or Fail.

Plagiarism is considered to be a very serious academic offence. The University will take disciplinary actions against any kind of attempted malpractice in examinations and assessments. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other improper practices in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University for a specific period of time.

Entry requirements

PhD students accepted to the PhD programme in Business Administration or an adjacent subject are eligible for the course.

Course literature

See separate literature list.

Department of Business Administration

Books

Alvesson, M. *Interpreting Interviews*. Sage 2011

Alvesson, M. & Skoldberg, K: *Reflexive Methodology*, Sage 2009 (2nd ed)

Symon, G & Cassell, C (eds) *Qualitative Organizational Research*. Sage 2012

Articles

Alvesson, M., & Kärreman, D. Creating mystery: empirical matters in theory development. *Academy of Management Review* 2007, 32, 4, 1265–1281

Alvesson, M., & Sandberg, J. Generating research questions through problematization. *Academy of Management Review* 2011, 37, 2, 247–271

Alvesson & Sveningsson: The good vision, bad micro-management and ugly ambiguity: contradictions of (non)leadership in a knowledge intensive organization. *Organization Studies*. 2003, 24, 6:961–988.

Davis, M. S. That's interesting!: Towards a phenomenology of sociology and a sociology of phenomenology. *Philosophy of the Social Sciences*, 1, 309–344.