

Department of Business Administration

EHFE007, Introduction to Business Research
Methods,
15 credits
Metodintroduktion,
15 hp
Third Cycle/Forskarutbildningsnivå

General information

The course EHFE007 is a course on 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.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies: Business Administration

The aim of the course is to offer an overview of the different methodological choices available for researchers within the various sub-disciplines of management studies. The main ambition of the course is to prepare the participants for the work with their PhD-theses as well as for the specialized courses in qualitative and quantitative methods that will appear later on the PhD-program. Another aim of the course is to offer an opportunity to reflect upon the various stages and challenges in the research process.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

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

- Demonstrate knowledge of the broad repertoire of methods available in social sciences

- Demonstrate an understanding of the various assumptions and premises underpinning methodological choices

Competence and skills

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

- Demonstrate an ability to develop and argue for methodological choices.
- Demonstrate an ability to reflect on the strengths and weaknesses of different research designs.

Judgement and approach

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

- Demonstrate an ability to reflect upon the problems related to methodological choices and development of knowledge.

Course design

The course is conducted through a series of seminars and lectures. The classes have both lecture and seminar components and all classes are compulsory

Assessment

An individual final take-home exam.

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.

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Set of articles, e.g.

Alvesson, M. & Sandberg, J. (2011) 'Generating Research Questions through Problematization', *Academy of Management Review*, 36(2): 247–271.

Morgan, G. (1980). 'Paradigms, metaphors, and puzzle solving in organization theory' *Administrative Science Quarterly* 25(4): 605–622.

Watson, T. (1994), "Managing, crafting and researching: words, skill and imagination in shaping management research", *British Journal of Management*, 5: 577–587.

Bate SP (1997) Whatever happened to organizational anthropology? A review of the field of organizational ethnography and anthropological studies. *Human Relations* 50: 1147–1175.

Rosen, M. (1985), "Breakfast at Spiro's", *Journal of Management*, Vol. 11 No. 2, pp. 91–109.

Atkinson, P. 2006. "Why do fieldwork?", *Sociologisk forskning*, 2006:2, pp. 129–134.

Nash, Jeffrey. 1981. "Relations in Frozen Places: Observations on Winter Public Order." *Qualitative Sociology* 4:229–43.