Strategic career planning

Credit points: 1.5 ECTS
Course code: 5DN011
Established: 2020-05-12
Established by: Committee for doctoral studies
Syllabus valid from: 2020-05-12
Responsible Department: Chemistry
Main field of study: General science
Grading system: G pass, U Fail
Level of Education: Doctoral course

1. Required Knowledge
Admitted to studies at third cycle-level.

2. Expected learning outcomes
After completing the course, students shall be able to:

Knowledge and understanding
- identify and compare possible career paths within and outside the higher education sector.
- explain how scientific, educational and other qualifications are evaluated and assessed in the higher education sector.
- describe the purpose and use of an individual career development plan.

Competence and skills
- apply the tools discussed in the course to identify their own career goals.
- formulate strategies and identify activities needed to reach these goals.
- write and structure an individual career development plan.

Judgement and approach
- evaluate and critically assess the strategies and activities needed for different career paths.
- reflect on the needs for competence and skills required for their targeted career goals.

3. Contents
The course offers an orientation about career paths in the higher education sector and discusses how a PhD degree can be used as basis for a career within and outside of academia. The main aim of the course is to provide its participants with the tools and knowledge needed to identify their individual career goals, make strategies and identify activities that will help them reach these goals. The course gives examples of how to build, write and use an individual career development plan. The course also addresses how academic, pedagogical and other

qualifications are evaluated and assessed within the university and how these can be documented.

4. Form of instruction

The course consists of four scheduled meetings, with activities between meetings. The teaching is conducted in the form of lectures, group discussions and practical exercises.

5. Examination modes

After completing the course, the student is awarded one of the grades Fail (U) and Pass (G). Examination takes the form of mandatory assignments with the goal of establishing an individual career development plan.

6. Other regulations

Academic credit transfers are always reviewed individually according to the University's set of rules and academic credit transfer regulations.

7. Literature

Main course book:

- Melanie V. Sinche (2016) *"Next Gen PhD – A Guide to Career Paths in Science"*. Cambridge, Massachusetts, Harvard University Press.

Recommended reading:

- You Need a Game Plan: https://www.sciencemag.org/careers/2012/09/you-need-game-plan
- Editorial: Planning Career Paths for PhDs: https://www.sciencemag.org/careers/2012/09/editorial-planning-career-paths-phds
- A Career-Development Plan for Postdocs: https://www.sciencemag.org/careers/2002/10/career-development-plan-postdocs
- Not Your Father's Postdoc: https://www.sciencemag.org/careers/2005/04/not-your-fathers-postdoc
- How to find the right place for your Ph.D. or postdoc: https://www.sciencemag.org/careers/2018/09/how-find-right-place-your-phd-or-postdoc