



UMEÅ UNIVERSITET

# Forskningsprocessens delar, 7,5 hp

## Engelsk benämning: Stages in the research process, 7.5 ECTS

**Higher Education Credits:** 7.5

**Responsible department:** Department of Language Studies

**Date of establishment:** 2017-02-22

**Main area/field of study:** Educational Science

**Level:** Third Cycle

**Grading scale:** Pass (G); Fail (U)

### Course approval

The course was approved by the Department of Language Studies' research degree committee on 22<sup>th</sup> of February 2017, and is valid from 2017-02-22

### Aims and Contents

The course is concerned with the promotion of participants' research processes from the initial formulation of the research problem to the final thesis. The main focus of the course is the development of the participants' skills in problem seeking, problem definition and delimiting research. The aim is to encourage a contextual and reflexive understanding of the parts of the research process through assignments in research design, academic writing, collection of empirical data, presentation of results, analysis and interpretation. The aim includes encouraging a critical stance to the different parts of the research process, irrespective of the final format of the thesis.

The course is structured in three parts of 2.5 ECTS.

#### *Part 1. Problem formulation and research overview (2,5 ECTS)*

The first part offers an overview of differing theoretical and methodological approaches to how knowledge can be gained through research in the field of educational sciences. The aim is to offer participants an opportunity to formulate and delimit research topics and research aims, and to generate research questions in relation to national and international research in the field.



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### ***Part 2. Research design (2,5 ECTS)***

The second part offers the participants the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of research design in relation to theoretical frames and methodological considerations.

### ***Part 3. From empirical data collection to interpretation of results (2,5 ECTS)***

The third part offers the participants the opportunity to reflect on the research process from the collection of empirical data to the presentation of results, including analysis and interpretation in relation to theories and methods used. In this part we will also talk about the organizing of the writing of a thesis.

### **Expected learning outcomes**

Upon completion of the course the student will be able to:

- delimit research areas and formulate research topics;
- position objects of study in relation to research in the fields of study ;
- communicate and relate the research approaches of specific studies to various theoretical and methodological approaches of research in the fields of study;
- operationalize theories and methods in empirical studies;
- analytically present and defend the results of research studies in speech and writing;
- identify and communicate a research study's contribution to educational research, nationally and internationally;
- reflect upon his or her area of specialization in relation to the varying functions of the educational sciences in historical, contemporary and global contexts.

### **Eligibility**

Registered as a research student.

### **Form of instruction**

The course is structured around lectures, workshops and seminars. Students' essays on the research process (work in progress, book chapters or articles) and/or the literature are discussed in compulsory seminars.

### **Examination**

The examination of each part of the course takes the form of oral presentations, essays, and active participation in compulsory seminars.



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## **Literature**

The literature for each part for the course is decided by the course leader and set in relation to the theme of the specific seminar for each course part.