

Philosophy of Science I – An introduction, 5 credits

Vetenskapsteori I – en introduktion, 5 högskolepoäng

Course code:	FHVV025
Host School:	School of Health, Care and Social Welfare
Valid from:	240109
Established by:	School of Health, Care and Social Welfare
Decision date:	240402
Last modified:	
Level of education:	Third cycle level
Language:	English

Course objective

The course aims to introduce doctoral students to central questions related to the production of scientific knowledge, from contemporary and historical points of view. The course also aims to cover different scientific traditions and how they relate to each other.

Course content

- History of the philosophy of science
- Central concepts, questions and problems related to the production of scientific knowledge
- Scientific traditions

Intended learning outcomes

Upon completion of the course the doctoral student should be able to

1. show basic understanding of the historical development of the philosophy of science
2. apply central concepts, questions, and problems related to the production of scientific knowledge
3. evaluate various scientific theoretical positions and perspectives
4. formulate and present an independent scientific standpoint in relation to different scientific traditions

The intended qualitative targets in the Higher Education Ordinance, appendix 2.

Knowledge and understanding

For the Degree of Doctor, the doctoral student shall demonstrate:

- A1: broad knowledge and systematic understanding of the research field as well as advanced and up-to-date specialised knowledge in a limited area of this field
- A2: familiarity with research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.

Competence and skills

For the Degree of Doctor, the doctoral student shall demonstrate:

- B1: the capacity for scholarly analysis and synthesis as well as to review and assess new and complex phenomena, issues and situations autonomously and critically,
- B2: the ability to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously, and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake research and other qualified tasks within predetermined time frames and to review and evaluate such work,

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Doctor the doctoral student shall demonstrate

- C1: intellectual autonomy and disciplinary rectitude as well as the ability to make assessments of research ethics, and
- C2: specialised insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used.

Teaching formats

Lectures, workshops, seminars

Examination

SEM, written and oral examination, 2 credits.

INL, individual written assignment, 3 credits.

Grade

Examinations included in the course are assessed according to a two-grade scale, fail or pass.

Grades are to be decided by a teacher specially appointed by the university.

A person who has not passed the regular examination shall be given the opportunity to retake the test.

Requirements

To participate in the course and the examinations included in the course, the applicant must be admitted to doctoral studies at Mälardalen University.

Selection criteria

Doctoral students admitted to other higher education institutions within and outside of Sweden may be admitted to the course, subject to availability. The same applies to teachers at Mälardalens University that holds a PhD. Selection of applicants will be made in accordance with the ranking below.

1. Doctoral students at Mälardalen University
2. Doctoral students at other universities in Sweden
3. Doctoral students at other higher education institutions outside Sweden
4. Teachers at Mälardalen University that holds a PhD.