

Research Communication in Practice, 4 credits

Forskningss kommunikation i praktiken, 4 högskolepoäng

Course Code/Codes	15SO015
Subject Area	Sociology
School/equivalent	School of Humanities, Education, and Social Science
Valid from	2024-04-24
Approved	2024-04-03
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Approved by	Head of School
Translation to English, date and signature	2024-03-18 MB

1 Course content

In this course, doctoral students learn about the steps involved in planning research communication and they practice skills necessary for communicating research both within the academic community and in society at large. Doctoral students prepare a communication plan based on their own research material. This plan presents the purpose of communication, the framing of messages, the definition of target group, relevant channels (media, social media, etc.) and tools for communication. Moreover, doctoral students learn about the importance of adapting their message to different situations and of exploiting the means available to communicate in spoken or written form. Throughout the course, they practice giving presentations and writing a popular science article based on their research.

2 Outcomes

2.1 The course in relation to the doctoral programme

The course shall primarily refer to the following intended learning outcomes for third-cycle courses and study programmes as described in the Higher Education Ordinance, i.e. the doctoral student shall demonstrate:

Competence and skills

- the ability in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings authoritatively in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society in general (outcome 6)

The intended learning outcomes are listed in the same order as in the general syllabus for the programme.

2.2 Intended course learning outcomes

To obtain a passing grade, the doctoral student shall demonstrate:

Knowledge of:

- the different decisions that need to be taken when planning and integrating communication in one's own research, and
- the available choices concerning content, composition, presentation of research communication in different channels of communication.

Ability to:

- purposefully plan research communication, by specifying target groups and channels, and show how research communication can be integrated into the different parts of research practice, and
- concisely and comprehensibly communicate academic research to a wider audience using various oral, written and visual methods.

3 Reading list and other teaching material

The following course readings and teaching material will be used on the course:

Albuquerque, Ulysses Paulino. (2015). *Speaking in Public About Science*. New York: Springer. (available as an e-book)

Articles and course material about max. 200 pages will be included, which is stated in the study guide no later than 1 week before the start of the course.

4 Teaching formats

Teaching on the course takes the following format:

Lectures, seminars and exercises. During the course, both research staff and expertise from the communication department participate. The doctoral student works with his or her own dissertation material.

5 Examination

The course is assessed through an examination consisting of the components listed below. The individual components are not graded separately but together they provide the basis for assessment and grading.

Examination includes active participation in mandatory seminars and written assignments consisting of a communication plan, the writing of an article for a non-expert audience, and a written reflection about the oral and written tasks of the course.

6 Grades

Examinations on third-cycle courses and study programmes are to be assessed according to a two-grade scale with either of the grades 'fail' or 'pass' (local regulations).

The grade shall be determined by a teacher specifically nominated by the higher education institution (the examiner) (Higher Education Ordinance).

To obtain a passing grade on examinations included in the course, the doctoral student is required to demonstrate that he/she attains the intended course learning outcomes as described in section 2.2. Alternatively, if the course consists of multiple examinations generating credit, the doctoral student is required to demonstrate that he/she attains the outcomes that the examination in question refers to in accordance with section 5.

A student who has failed an examination is entitled to a retake.

If an examination consists of several examination components, and a student fails an examination component, the examiner may, as an alternative to a retake, set a make-up assignment with regard to the examination component in question.

A doctoral student who has failed an examination twice for a specific course or course element is entitled, upon his/her request, to have another examiner appointed to determine the grade.

7 Admission to the course

7.1 Admission requirements

To gain access to the course and complete the examinations included in the course, the applicant must be admitted to a doctoral programme at Örebro University.

7.2 Selection

Selection between applicants who have been admitted to doctoral programmes at Örebro University and who otherwise meet the admission requirements as listed above is made according to the following order of precedence:

Priority will be given to PhD students admitted to a research programme within the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.

If no other selection criteria are specified in this section, priority shall be given to applicants with a lower number of course credits left before the award of their degree over applicants with a higher number of remaining course credits. Should two or more students have equal number of credits, selection will be done through the drawing of lots. This also applies within any selection groups listed unless otherwise stated.

7.3 Other applicants than doctoral students admitted at Örebro University

Other applicants than doctoral students admitted at Örebro University may be given access to the course on the grounds of provisions for and/or agreements regarding contracted courses, joint degrees, national graduate schools or cooperation in other respects with other universities.

Any decisions on what such other applicants may be given access to the course are made separately and on the basis of the provisions and/or agreements that occasion the student to apply for the course.

For participation in the course in other respects, the same provisions shall apply as for doctoral students admitted to Örebro University.

8 Transfer of credits for courses, study programmes and other experience

Provisions on the transfer of credits can be found in the Higher Education Ordinance and on the university's webpage.

9 Other information

Transitional provisions