Research seminars in medicine – trends in biomedicine, 1.5 credits

Course content
The following topics are discussed on the course:

- general and specific research questions in medical research
- general and specific research methods in medical research
- critical review of medical research
- specific trends in biomedicine

Outcomes
2.1 The course in relation to the doctoral
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:

Knowledge and understanding
- broad knowledge and systematic understanding of the research field (part of outcome 1)
- advanced and up-to-date specialized knowledge in a limited area of this field (part of outcome 1)
- familiarity with research methodology in general (part of outcome 2)
- familiarity with research methodology in the specific research field in particular (part of outcome 2)
Competence and skills
- the capacity for scholarly analysis and synthesis (part of outcome 3)
- the capacity to review and assess new and complex phenomena, issues and situations autonomously and creatively (part of outcome 3)
- the ability to review and evaluate research and other qualified tasks (part of outcome 4)

Judgement and approach
- intellectual autonomy and disciplinary rectitude (part of outcome 9)

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 and understanding for general research questions in medical research and specific knowledge in the selected topics (trends) in medicine
Knowledge and understanding about research methods in medical research in general and specific knowledge on methods used in the selected topics (trends) in medicine
The ability to actively participate and discuss aspects of research questions and methods at the seminars
The ability to prepare a written report on aspects of research questions and methods together with own reflections from each respective seminar.

3 Reading list and other teaching material

The following course readings and teaching material will be used in the course. Each item on the following reading list refers to the latest edition.


or


In addition, scientific articles will be selected in relation to each lecture and supplied by the course administrator in preparation for each lecture/seminar.

4 Teaching formats

Teaching on the course takes the following format:

Lectures
Seminars
Independent studies

5 Examination

The course is assessed through the following examinations, which will be assessed together:

- Written examination; one report (1-2 pages) for each seminar. In total three reports.

- Compulsory attendance and active participation in seminars.

For examinations consisting of several examination components, the following applies: if during the course it is concluded that a doctoral student is unable to complete a certain examination component, the examiner may set a
substitute assignment provided that circumstances do not reasonably allow for the course component to be completed at a later date during the run 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 it.

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. In addition, the applicant should have passed the doctoral course: General Scientific Methods in Medical Science (15 credits) at Örebro University or a corresponding course.

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:

1. Applicants admitted to doctoral programmes within the faculty of medicine and health
2. Applicants admitted to doctoral programmes within other faculties at Örebro University

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.
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

The course consists of four meetings and students are expected to undertake independent study between times. First meeting is an introduction to the course and of the subject of critical review. Before each compulsory lecture and seminar, students are provided with research material to read in preparation and to discuss with the lecturer. Also, they should summarize their thoughts on the research questions and methods (in respect to the provided research material) in a short report and also engage in discussions at the following seminar. The seminars and invited lecturers will focus on current topics in biomedicine.

The language of tuition on the course is English.

Transitional provisions