



Supervising PhD students

Qualifying course for PhD supervisors, 3 weeks

(Forskarhandledarutbildning)

1 GENERAL INFORMATION

The course is aimed at PhD supervisors and prospective PhD supervisors.

2 ABOUT THE COURSE

Supervising PhD Students corresponds to 120 working hours, or three weeks of full-time study. The course syllabus was approved by the Director of the Centre for Academic Development on 1 April 2025.

2.1 Course objectives

After completing the course, participants should be able to

- reflect on their role as PhD supervisor in relation to regulations, frameworks, conditions and routines,
- discuss different aspects of the relationships between the main supervisor, co-supervisor and doctoral student,
- analyse situations that occur in PhD supervision and identify and evaluate possible courses of action.

2.2 Course content

The course consists of two strands. The first focuses on public service obligations; that is, the responsibilities placed on those involved in PhD education by society, as outlined in national and local regulations. The second

explores the pedagogical role, addressing the opportunities, challenges and issues that PhD supervisors may encounter in various supervisory situations.

2.3 Teaching modes

The course uses presentations, seminars, workshops and individual reflection assignments. Learning activities are conducted individually, in full-group sessions and in smaller discussion or working groups. Course materials and information are published on Örebro University's learning platform.

2.4 Attendance requirements

As the collegial exchange of experiences and knowledge is an important element of the course, a high level of attendance is required. In the case of absence, participants are asked to contact the course coordinator in advance for a discussion about how the learning activity can be carried out or the course content obtained in another way. However, attendance during the first two days of the course is a condition for taking the course that semester. If the attendance rate is lower than 80%, the participant must retake the course. If a participant has not completed the course within two years of the start of the course, they must retake the course.

2.5 Assessment

The course includes three compulsory assignments: a literature reflection, an observation or interview with a corresponding reflection, and a course report. The first two assignments will be discussed in a seminar setting, while the third is submitted to the course coordinator.

2.6 Reading list

A reading list will be provided at the start of the course.

2.7 Course certificate

A course certificate will be issued on satisfactory completion of the course.

3 PRIOR ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for this course, participants need to have a PhD.