

Research ethics and good research practice, 3 credits

Forskningsetik och god forskningsed, 3 högskolepoäng

Course Code/Codes	70ME065, 70ME066 and 70ME067
Subject Area	Medical Science
School/equivalent	School of Health Sciences
Valid from	2015-02-16
Approved	2014-12-09
Revised	2017-02-14
Approved by	Head of School
Translation to English, date and signature	2017-02-21 CHN

1 Course content

The course covers:

- Normative ethical discussions
- Ethical guidelines for research
- Reviewing an application to an ethical vetting board
- Good research practice and research integrity

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 capacity to review and assess new and complex phenomena, issues and situations autonomously and critically (part of outcome 3)
- 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)

Judgement and approach

- intellectual autonomy and disciplinary rectitude (part of outcome 9)
- the ability to make assessments of research ethics (part of outcome 9)
- specialised insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used (outcome 10)

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:

- an in-depth understanding of the import of ethical guidelines for research
- the ability to assess an application to an ethical vetting board
- the ability to pursue a normative ethical discussion on research-ethical problems and dilemmas
- an understanding of good research practice and researcher integrity

3 Reading list and other teaching material

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

Compulsory reading

Vetenskapsrådet (2011) Good research practice. The Swedish Research Council's report number 3:2011.

National Academy of Sciences (COR) (2009) On being a scientist: A guide to responsible conduct in research. National Academies Press.

Reference literature

Helgesson, Gert (2015) Forskningsetik. Lund: Studentlitteratur. (*only available in Swedish*)

Eriksson, Stefan & Helgesson, Gert (2013) Publiceringsetik. Lund: Studentlitteratur. (*only available in Swedish*)

Scientific articles within the field will be added.

4 Teaching formats

Teaching on the course takes the following format:

Lectures
Seminars
Self-study

5 Examination

The course is assessed through the following examinations which will be graded separately:

70ME065: Written hand-in assignment and oral contribution in seminar of 1 credit. Normative assignment. Normative ethics linked to a research-ethical context. The written assignment will be presented and discussed at a seminar. In the examination, the student shall demonstrate their ability to apply normative ethical lines of reasoning to research-ethical problems and dilemmas.

70ME066: Written hand-in assignment and oral contribution in seminar of 1 credit. Review and assessment of an application to an ethical vetting board. The written assignment will be presented and discussed at a seminar. In the examination, the student shall demonstrate in-depth understanding of the significance of research-ethical guidelines and demonstrate an ability to assess an application to an ethical vetting board.

70ME067: Oral contribution in seminar of 1 credit. Discussion of good research practice and researcher integrity. In the examination, the student shall demonstrate an understanding of good research practice and researcher integrity.

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:

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

The language of instruction is Swedish unless there are English-speaking students on the course, in which case the language of instruction will be English.

Transitional provisions

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