1 Course content

The course includes, based on a healthcare sciences perspective:
- key concepts and their relevance to various phenomena in healthcare sciences
- theoretical definitions – domains
- evidence-based concepts
- the current state of knowledge in the development of concepts (for example, critically reviewing the literature relevant to the selected concept)
- concepts relevant to the research field.

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:

Knowledge and understanding
- broad knowledge and systematic understanding of the research field (part of outcome 1)
- familiarity with research methodology in general (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 critically (part of outcome 3)
- the ability to identify the need for further knowledge (outcome 7)

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:

Knowledge and understanding
- knowledge and understanding of the process of systematic review of and summarising available science concerning concepts for events and phenomena in healthcare sciences.

Skills and abilities
- ability to identify, in scientific literature, existing definitions of relevant concepts
- capacity for analysis and synthesis of relevant concepts
- ability to develop a schematic presentation of a theoretical framework
- ability to critically review and assess

Judgement and approach
- in-depth insight into the scientific approach in relation to concepts within healthcare sciences

3 Reading list and other teaching material

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


Alternative:


In addition literature and scientific articles related to the participants’ own phenomenon of interest.

4 Teaching formats

Teaching on the course takes the following format:

Lectures, including literature studies, seminars, oral and written presentations. The course will be offered on campus.
Active learning: The students shall send a report of their understanding of each lecture and reflective statement of each seminar.

The course is based on the participants’ active contributions in seminars and in writing of scientific texts. Supervision will be offered. The language used on the course is English.

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.

- Written and oral presentation of an individual paper (written assignment) in English.
- Critical review of another course participant’s paper, including written and verbal feedback.
- Mandatory attendance in required seminars.

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:
1. Applicants admitted as a doctoral student within the subject area Medical Science with specialisation in Healthcare Sciences
2. Applicants admitted as a doctoral student within other subject areas

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 used on the course will be English.

Research students who have been admitted to a course have the right to receive tuition and/or supervision for the duration of the time period specified for the particular course to which they were accepted. After that, the right to receive tuition and/or supervision expires.

Transitional provisions