1 Course content

The course gives a broad overview of different scientific traditions in the field of sport science research. This includes knowledge of current research fields, different approaches to studying scientific problems and the issues that the different approaches are suitable to elucidate. The course also addresses research ethical issues in relation to the various research fields.

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)

Judgement and approach
- 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 understanding of different scientific traditions in the field of sport science research, different approaches and what scientific issues they are suitable to elucidate and have a holistic view of the sport science research field
- in-depth knowledge of sports science research in relation to one’s own dissertation project
- knowledge of research ethical aspects of research in the various research fields of sport science

3 Reading list and other teaching material

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

Scientific articles related to the various research fields in sport science are presented and discussed in the course. The literature is based on a selection of current articles in each area in order to discuss the latest research in each field. The articles are selected on the basis that they provide a broad overview of the research area. The doctoral students are notified of which articles are included upon registration for the course.

4 Teaching formats

Teaching on the course takes the following format:

- Self-study
- Seminars with introductory lectures

5 Examination

The course is examined through the following examination components. The components are not individually graded but are the basis for an overall assessment and grading of the examination.

1. Written and oral participation in seminars through
   - the formulation of reflective documents for each seminar,
   - opposition to at least one other course participant’s written assignment at a seminar. The opponent should give adequate and constructive views and criticism,
   - presentation of own scientific text, which is then processed with due regard and taking into account the views and criticisms made.

2. Individual assignment:
   - A scientific text that has been completed during the course, which holds high standards in terms of structure, style, language proficiency, and composition. In the text, the student should reflect on some thesis-related phenomenon (determined together with the course coordinator) in relation to different perspectives that are dealt with in the course. In the text, research ethical reflections must also be made.

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.

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 from the subject of Sport Science
2. Other applicants that are admitted to postgraduate studies 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.

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 course is given at quarter speed.
Some lectures and seminars are given in English.

Transitional provisions