

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Methodology I: Research methods

Metod I: Forskningsmetodik

7.5 Higher Education

Credits

7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	PH130S
Valid from:	Autumn 2018
Date of approval:	2008-05-12
Changed:	2018-06-13
Department	Department of Public Health Sciences
Main field:	Public Health
Specialisation:	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

The syllabus was approved by the board for Centre for Health Equity Studies (CHES), Stockholm University/Karolinska Institutet 2008-05-12. A revision of the course name was decided 2012-06-19. Latest revision 2018-06-13.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
T130	Methodology I: Research methods	7.5

Course content

The course provides knowledge of methodological concepts and research methods used in quantitative research. The aim is to provide students with an understanding of methodological and basic statistical concepts needed to understand and critically evaluate research reports. After the course, the students should also be able to design scientific studies. The course covers important methodological concepts such as causality, validity, reliability, and statistical inference. It also deals with how different methodological choices concerning study design, sampling and measurement affect the possibility to make well-founded conclusions.

Learning outcomes

In order to receive a pass grade on the course, students are expected to be able to:

- Explain core methodological concepts in quantitative research.
- Explain basic concepts of statistical inference.
- Critically analyse research reports from a methodological perspective.
- Design scientific studies and reflect upon different methodological decisions.
- Reflect on the scientific process demonstrating competence development in the field of public health sciences.

Education

The teaching will be based on lectures and seminars.

One of the seminars is mandatory. In case of absence from the mandatory seminar the student will be given an individual assignment.

The course will be taught in English.

For more detailed information, see the course description. The course description will be available at least one month before the course starts.

Forms of examination

a) The course examination consists of a written take-home examination, a classroom examination, and active participation in the mandatory seminar.

The take-home exam will be graded on a scale of A to F. The classroom exam and active participation in the seminar will be graded as U (fail) or G (pass). The principles for weighting each part of the examination are presented in the grading criteria.

The examination will be in English.

b) The grade on the course will be given as follows:

A = Excellent
B = Very good
C = Good
D = Satisfactory
E = Sufficient
Fx = Not sufficient
F = Inadequate

c) The grading criteria will be presented to the students in writing when the course begins.

d) In order to receive a passing grade in the course, the student must receive at least the grade E on the take-home exam, a passing grade for the classroom exam, and a passing grade for active participation in the seminar.

e) Each time the course is taught, two examinations are offered. For terms when the course is not taught, one examination is offered.

Students who receive a failing grade two consecutive times from the same examiner have the right to request a different examiner to grade the examination. This request should be made to the director of studies.

Students who receive an E or higher grade may not be further examined for the purpose of improving the grade received.

f) It is possible to complement Fx to a passing grade on the home exam if the student is close to passing.

The grades A-E may be received for passing complements that are related to formality errors.

The grade E may be received for passing complements that reflect problems related to the more basic understanding of the material presented in the course.

If the complement of the grade Fx does not meet the requirements for a passing grade, the grade F is received.

Complements of the grade U to G for the active participation in the seminar are possible if the student is close to passing.

Interim

Students may request an examination in accordance with this syllabus up to three semesters after the course has ceased or changed significantly.

Misc

Plagiarism, cheating, and self-plagiarism is prohibited in all parts of the course. Suspicion of such cases is reported to the Disciplinary board at Stockholm University.

Required reading

The current course literature will be published on the department's website, www.su.se/publichealth, at least two months before the course begins.