

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Master's Thesis in Education with International and Comparative specialisation

30.0 Higher Education Credits

Examensarbete i pedagogik för masterexamen med internationell och jämförande inriktning

30.0 ECTS credits

Course code:	PEA475
Valid from:	Spring 2021
Date of approval:	2020-10-15
Department	Department of Education
Main field:	Education
Specialisation:	A2E - Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits)

Decision

Syllabus approved by the Head of Department after preparations made by Syllabus and Program Working Group at the department of Education.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

82,5 ECTS, of which, at least 15 ECTS credits of research methodology within the Master's programme in Education with International and Comparative specialisation.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
MT30	Master Thesis in Education	30

Course content

Under the guidance of a supervisor, this course consists of writing and a public defence of a Master Thesis in International and Comparative Education (in English). The students shall formulate a research question of relevance within the discipline, choose a methodology that can be used to find answers to the research question, use concepts, theories and methods to analyse and answer the research question and present a written, scientifically convincing argumentation about the results. Each student is given a supervisor who will advise the student in the research task included in the course and in the writing of the thesis.

Learning outcomes

To pass the course the student should be able to:

- show broad knowledge and understanding in international and comparative education as a scientific discipline in relation to an independently chosen research problem presented in the thesis and which is examined in relation to an opposition,
- show a considerable degree of in-depth knowledge and understanding of the selected subject area in relation to an independent research problem,
- show in-depth knowledge in justifying a selected method and relating it to other methods within international and comparative education,
- show ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge about theories and methods in relation to an independently chosen research problem,
- show ability to analyse, assess and manage the complexity and enquiry related to available information on

the independently chosen research problem,

- show ability to critically, independently and creatively identify and formulate enquiries, adequately choose methods and plan and conduct their studies within the given time frames,
- show both verbal and written ability to explicate and discuss own conclusions drawn as well as those of others' and the knowledge and arguments in which they are embedded in dialogue with peers,
- show such ability required to participate in research and development work or for work in other qualified activities through verbal and written presentations,
- show ability to make assessments with respect to scientific, societal, and ethical aspects in relation to one's own research rationale and in relation to another thesis analysed as part of the opposition,
- show insights about the potentials and limitations of their own research and its function in society and about the responsibility for how it is utilised,
- show ability to identify proposals for further research and needs for own development of knowledge in relation to the Master thesis.

Education

The tasks of the MA Thesis are completed individually, with supervision and the student is required to participate in seminars where other students defend their theses.

A student who has started to work on a MA Thesis is entitled to 25 hours of supervision, in total. About a third of the 25 hours of supervision are devoted to direct meetings with the supervisor.

A student is entitled to change supervisors under certain circumstances. A well-motivated request for changing supervisor is addressed to the course leader. In a change of supervisor, the hours of supervision already expended will be deducted from the maximum entitlement of 25 hours.

A student who is not able to complete a thesis that has been commenced during the current course, is not entitled to additional supervision. However, a student is always entitled to have their master thesis assessed at a subsequent examination opportunity.

For more detailed information, please see the course description.

Forms of examination

The master thesis authored by the student forms the basis of the course examination along with the defence of the thesis during a seminar and additionally through an opposition of a peer student's thesis at a public seminar.

Assessment

The assessment is based on both the whole and parts of the master thesis demonstrate that the expected outcomes have been reached.

Grading

Course grades are assigned according to a seven grade, criterion referenced scale:

Passing grades (in descending order)

A = Excellent

B = Very Good

C = Good

D = Satisfactory

E = Sufficient

Failing Grades

Fx = Fail, some additional work is required

F = Fail, substantial work is required

In order to pass the course, at least an E grade is required as well as a completed and conceded oral defence of the student's own thesis and an opposition of a peer student's thesis. For more detailed information, please see the course description.

F and Fx are failing grades. An F grade requires submitting a re-examination. A supplementing of an Fx grade is permissible given that the thesis is bordering a pass grade. When the examiner has reported a need to supplement the work, the student is given five working days to submit the revised thesis. Should the revision not be submitted within the given time frame, the thesis will require re-examination.

An examination assignment which is not submitted by the given due date stated in the course description will not be assessed.

Students who have been awarded a grade E may not re-take the examination to achieve a higher grade.

A student who has received a failing grade after submitting two new examination tasks for a course or part of a course is entitled to be assigned a new examiner, unless there are special conflicting circumstances. Such requests are addressed to the Department Board/ Head of Department.

Interim

When a course is discontinued a student is entitled to be examined according to this syllabus once per term, for a period of three terms.

Misc

The course is given in English.

Required reading

In order to fulfil the course requirements, each student must undertake an individual search for relevant literature with the support of the supervisor and in collaboration with the Director of Studies.