



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

MRSM13, Human Rights Studies: Research Methods and Research Ethics, 15 credits

Mänskliga rättigheter: Forskningsmetoder och forskningsetik, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2019-05-06 to be valid from 2019-05-06, spring semester 2020.

General Information

The course is a compulsory component of the Master's programme in Human Rights Studies. It is also offered as a freestanding course.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Human Rights Studies

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- describe and discuss methodological questions and concepts of relevance to human rights as a multidisciplinary research area
- provide an account of how and why a certain method is to be chosen for a certain research issue and in what ways the choice of method affects the research process and its result
- account for principles of research ethics and for research ethics regulations of relevance

Competence and skills

- discuss and assess planning and execution of a theoretically and methodologically well supported research project in human rights as a multidisciplinary research area
- independently seek, collect, assess and interpret information and source data
- assess the applicability of principles and rules of research ethics in different types of research projects within the relevant research field
- produce and use a well-structured project plan

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate the analytical ability to assess methodological problems in the relevant research area in relation to current scholarly debates
- use their knowledge of research methodology to review and assess scholarly work
- analyse and assess challenges with regard to research ethics within a part of the relevant research area
- plan their own continuing professional development in human rights as a multidisciplinary research field.

Course content

The course provides students with specialised knowledge of methods in the research area of human rights. The focus is placed on both qualitative and quantitative methods but with special emphasis on qualitative methods in multidisciplinary research. The course includes components about research ethics focusing on principles of good research practice, regulations for ethical review and procedures concerning misconduct. Furthermore, the course provides knowledge and training with regard to planning research projects.

A course component addresses methodology, relations between theory and method, research ethics and different research traditions and another one involves practical exercises in methodology and work to develop research project plans.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, compulsory seminars and compulsory exercises. Absence from a compulsory component is to be compensated for by an assignment in accordance with the instructions of the course director.

Assessment

The assessment is based on 2-4 written assignments and oral seminar presentations.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have passed 15 credits of the Master's programme in Human Rights Studies (HAMRS) or have a first cycle degree in a humanities or social sciences subject including a degree project focusing on human rights, English B from Swedish upper secondary school and 15 credits from second-cycle courses.

Further information

1. The course is offered at the Division of Human Rights Studies, Department of History, Lund University.
2. The credits allocated for course content that in whole or in part is commensurate with another course can only be credited once for a degree. For further details see the current registration information and other relevant documentation.