



School of Economics and Management

INFN02, Informatics: Research Methods in Information Systems, 7.5 credits

Informatik: Vetenskapliga undersökningsmetoder i informationssystem, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Informatics on 2025-02-05. The syllabus comes into effect 2025-02-05 and is valid from the spring semester 2026.

General information

The course is compulsory within the Master's Programme in Information Systems.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of study Specialisation

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

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

Learning outcomes

After completing the course, the student should have gained in-depth knowledge of and skills in theories and methods for scientific research.

Knowledge and understanding

To pass the course, the student must demonstrate knowledge of and understanding of

- the research process and areas of study within information systems (IS)
- information systems research methodologies including qualitative, quantitative, design science research and others

- ethical and scientific quality positions in scientific IS research

Competence and skills

To pass the course, the student must demonstrate competence and skills individually or in groups to

- generate and argue for researchable questions and problems within IS
- plan and design research studies including selection of methods for data collection and analysis as well as justification for methodological and philosophical choices

Judgement and approach

To pass the course, the student must demonstrate the ability to

- critically review and assess research methodologies and approaches
- critically review and assess IS research relevance
- critically review and assess ethical and quality criteria for scientific research

Course content

The course includes key content and themes including:

- Information Systems as a scientific discipline
- qualitative methods
- quantitative methods
- design science research
- research design and methodological selection
- quality aspects and criteria in scientific studies
- ethical principles, dilemmas and positions

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, seminars and supervision.

Assessment

The assessment is based on assignments and a research plan.

Re-examinations are offered in close conjunction with the first examination.

The test and course grades are determined by the course examiner. The examiner is entitled to change the grades given by the teachers on the course if this does not violate Chapter 6, Section 24 of the Higher Education Ordinance (1993:100).

Academic misconduct such as cheating, plagiarism, fabrication and falsification is considered a serious offence in higher education (see Chapter 10 of the Higher Education Ordinance). The disciplinary measures that may be taken as a result of such offences are caution or suspension for a limited period of time from the university (and all the faculties of the university).

Examinations

- Assignments, 2.5 cr, grading scale: U-G, individual or group examination
- Research Plan, 5.0 cr, grading scale: U-A, individual or group examination

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

Grading scale includes the grades: U=Fail, E=Sufficient, D=Satisfactory, C=Good, B=Very Good, A=Excellent

Grade (Definition) Points or percentage out of maximum points. Characteristic.

A (Excellent) 85-100. A distinguished result that is excellent with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

B (Very good) 75-84. A very good result with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

C (Good) 65-74. The result is of a good standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought and lives up to expectations.

D (Satisfactory) 55-64. The result is of a satisfactory standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

E (Sufficient) 50-54. The result satisfies the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought, but not more.

U (Fail) 0-49. The result does not meet the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

To pass the course, the students must have been awarded the grade of E or higher.

Grading rules and definitions

Examination grades

Examinations are graded according to the grading scale U-A or the grading scale U-G (Fail-Pass).

Course grade

A passing grade on all examinations is required to pass the course.

1. For each examination with the grading scale U-A, the obtained points are multiplied by the number of credits for the examination. Grades without points are converted as follows: A = 92, B = 80, C = 70, D = 60, E = 52.
2. The products of the included examinations are summed up and divided by the total number of credits of the included examinations.
3. This results in a weighted average which determines the course grade. 85–100 gives the grade A, 75-84 gives the grade B, 65-74 gives the grade C, 55–64 gives the grade D, 50–54 gives the grade E.

Examinations with the grading scale U-G are not included in the calculation of the course grade.

Entry requirements

Admission to the course requires English 6 as well as: a bachelor's degree in informatics/information systems and further 30 cr informatics/information systems at advanced level or the equivalent.

Further information

INFN02 may not be included in a degree together with INFN01 or the equivalent.

It is compulsory to attend the introduction meeting, where a roll call will be taken. Absence without notification means that the admitted student will lose their seat on the course.

For transitional provisions with regard to previous courses, please contact the study advisor for an individual assessment.

If the course is discontinued, there may be limited opportunities for re-examination. Please contact the study advisor for information.