UNIVERSITY OF SKÖVDE

COURSE SYLLABUS

Forskningsetik, Forskarnivå
Research Ethics, Post-graduate level
5 credits

Course Code: IT0925F
The Course Syllabus applies from: Jan 1, 2019
Date of Approval: Dec 10, 2018
Version Number: 2

Third-cycle Subject Area: Informatics

Academic Level: Post-graduate level

1 Name, Scope and Level of the Course

The course is given by the University of Skövde and is named Research Ethics, Post-graduate level. It comprises 5 credits and is on Post-graduate level.

2 Objectives

After completed course, the PhD student should be able to:

- understand and in detail explain the importance of ethical principles and moral philosophical frameworks, in addition to national and international research ethical regulations, of relevance to the student's own research;
- independently put together and review an ethical review for a research project of relevance to the student's own research, on the basis of existing regulations and sufficient ethical considerations;
- independently identify and analyse research ethical problems that can arise in different stages of the research process;
- critically reflect on the manner in which a researcher's own opinions, and society's changing opinions, affect research ethical approachs; and
- ciritically reflect on research ethical aspects and regulations in relation to the possibilities and limitations of science, and its role and utility in society.

3 Course Content

This course discusses ethical questions that arise in relation to different steps in the research process, from hypothesis through ethical review to implementation and publication, on the basis of both fundamental ethical principles and moral philosophical frameworks, as well as national and international regulations. The students' own research topics are given particular focus, in order to train their ability to undertake independent and sufficient ethical considerations in relation to their own research. In addition, the course highlights ethical aspects of the possibilities and limitations of science more generally, its role and utility in society, and how these issues are affected by both the researcher's own, and society's changing, opinions.

4 Forms of Teaching

The teaching comprises lectures and seminars/group discussions.

The teaching is conducted in English.

5 Examination

The course is graded Fail (U) or Pass (G).

Registration of examination results:

Name of examination	Credits	Grading
Assignment 1	1.5 hp/credits	U/G
Assignment 2	1.5 hp/credits	U/G
Seminars	2 hp/credits	U/G

To obtain a final passing grade of the course, each part of the examination must have been approved.

6 Admission Requirements

The admission requirements of the course are general entry requirements for third-cycle courses and study programmes, i.e. a second-cycle qualification or satisfied requirements for courses comprising at least 240 credits of which at least 60 credits were awarded in the second cycle, or the equivalent.

In order to fulfil the specific entry requirements, the applicant must have completed academic courses of at least 60 credits , including independent thesis writing of at least 15 credits at advanced level, within the field Informatics, applicable areas of a similar kind or other fields which are judged as directly relevant for the licentiate or PhD thesis.

Priority is given to students enrolled in doctoral studies at the School of Informatics at the University of Skövde. Other doctoral students from other universities can also be admitted as far as space allows.

7 Third-cycle Subject Area

The course forms a part of the third-cycle subject area of Informatics at the University of Skövde.

8 Approval of Course and Course Syllabus

This course was approved by the Committee for the Doctoral Programme in Informatics Dec 10, 2018. This course syllabus was ratified by the Committee for the Doctoral Programme in Informatics Dec 10, 2018. It is valid from Jan 1, 2019.

9 Overlapping with Another Course

This course cannot constitute a part of a degree also containing a course, the content of which is totally or partly equivalent to the content of this course.

10 Additional Information

Further information will be available on the university's website before the course is provided.

National and local regulations for higher education are available on the university's website.

During and after the course there will be a follow-up evaluation concerning the learning outcomes. The main objective of the follow-up is to contribute to improving the course. The research students' experience and points of view constitute one part of the scrutiny and are obtained through written group course evaluation/discussions. The research students are to be informed about the outcome of these as well as possible decisions concerning steps to be taken.

11 Course Literature and Other Educational Materials

Vetenskapsrådet (2011). Hermerén, G. *Good Research Practice.* [Elektronisk] Stockholm: Vetenskapsrådet. URL: https://publikationer.vr.se/produkt/good-research-practice/ ISBN 978-91-7307-194-9.

Scientific articles, as specified by the course instructor.