MEVN11 Qualitative Research Methods II

7.5 higher education credits Second cycle Level 1F

General Information

Main field
Occupational therapy, nursing and physiotherapy

Subject
Scientific methodology

Type of course
The course is included in the two-year Master of Medical Science programme (120 credits). It complies with the regulations of the Higher Education Ordinance (Swedish Code of Statutes 1993:100 with later amendments). The course can also be studied as a free-standing course.

Language of instruction
Swedish, but some of the tuition may be in English.

Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding
On completion of the course, students shall be able to

• propose, on the basis of theoretically valid arguments, suitable qualitative methods for various research issues/aims
• demonstrate in-depth theoretical understanding of a specific qualitative method in the context of an individual research project
• demonstrate in-depth theoretical understanding of the application of a specific research method in the various analytical stages.

Skills and abilities
On completion of the course, students shall be able to

• independently and critically analyse a chosen qualitative method with regard to its theoretical foundation
• independently formulate and judge the aim of an investigation with regard to a specific qualitative method
• conduct a qualitative analysis of their own empirical material based on an individually chosen research method.

Judgement and approach
On completion of the course, students shall be able to

• independently present and argue the potential and limitations of an individually conducted qualitative analysis with regard to their own core values and pre-understanding
• demonstrate awareness of and discuss the ethical aspects of qualitative analyses and reports
• identify, discuss and consider how issues of diversity and international relations may affect their investigations and how reliability and validity can be ensured
• identify their own need of further knowledge in the research area.

Course Content

The theory of science foundation of qualitative research methodology
Design and analytical methods related to
- text analysis theory
- inductive data-driven or open coding and deductive conceptual coding
In-depth study of one of the following fields:
- phenomenography
- phenomenology
- grounded theory
- critical incident analysis
- ethnography
- hermeneutical analysis
- focus group methodology

Subjects examined
In-depth study 7.5 credits

Instruction and Examination

Instruction
The studies on the course are characterised by active information searching, problem solving, reflection and critical analysis. The methods of work are based in flexible learning and can vary between learning activities (individually or in groups) and teaching activities such as seminars and lectures. The learning activities include a coding assignment, a text analysis assignment and a focus group analysis including a reflection task, in addition to the assessed in-depth study of a chosen methodological specialisation. The in-depth study must be conducted in accordance with the theoretical foundation of the method and the analysis must be performed thoroughly and in such a way that it is possible to follow.

Examination
For a pass on the course students must have participated actively in the course activities and successfully completed the in-depth study of the chosen specialisation.

Grades
Grades are set for a completed course. One of the grades Pass or Fail is awarded. A student who has passed a course will be given a certificate to that effect by the higher education institution, on request.

Admission Requirements
To be eligible for the course, students must have a Bachelor’s degree (180 credits) and have successfully completed VMFN04 Qualitative Research Methods I or the equivalent.
Further Information

Examination opportunities, new examiner, etc.

Theoretical courses
One ordinary examination and one opportunity for re-examination are offered in conjunction with the course. A student who has failed to achieve a pass on either of these occasions will be offered a further opportunity for re-examination at a later date. A student is entitled to four opportunities for re-examination in a theoretical course.

New examiner
A student who has taken two examinations in a course or a part of a course without obtaining a pass grade is entitled to have another examiner appointed, unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Swedish Code of Statutes 2006:1053). The request is to be submitted to the programme director.

Literature
See appendix
Appendix: Literature

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Rapley, T. J. (2001). The art(fullness) of open-ended interviewing: some considerations on analysing interviews. *Qualitative Research, 1*, 303-323.

A total of 1224 compulsory pages in the general course literature

Select one of the following specialisations and the texts listed for the assessed in-depth study:

**Phenomenographic analysis**
Marton, F. (1988). *Phenomenography and “the art of teaching all things to all men”.* Dept of Education, Gothenburg University, 0282–2180, 12.
Svensson, L. *The relation between categories of description and interview protocol in a case of phenomenographic research.* Department of Education, Gothenburg University, 1983:02

**Phenomenological analysis**
Giorgi, A. (1986 and later). *Phenomenology and psychological research.* Pittsburgh: Bokus.com (216 pages)
ISBN 0-920354-42-4

**Focus group analysis**
Grounded theory

Critical incident analysis

Ethnographical analysis and qualitative observation analysis

Hermeneutical analysis and phenomenological hermeneutical analysis

Reference literature

Theses and research articles may be included.