

Research Supervision - theory and practice

Term: Autumn 2020

Professional development course in research supervision for postgraduate supervisors. The course is aimed at employees at Stockholm university (SU) who are commissioned to supervise students at postgraduate level with or without previous supervisory experience at doctoral level.

Effort involved

The course is equivalent to two weeks full time study, equivalent to 3 ECTS higher education course.

Aim and intended learning outcomes

The purpose of the course is to provide participants opportunity and tools to discuss, develop and critically reflect on different aspects of doctoral supervision. On the basis of higher educational research and collegial exchange of experience the participants will after the course be able to:

- Describe tasks and responsibilities of being a PhD supervisor
- Explain central and local regulations impacting doctoral supervision
- Compare the organization and process of PhD education at different departments at SU
- Reflect on and critically discuss their own role as supervisor in relation to research on postgraduate supervision
- Show awareness of equity, equality and power relations in supervision
- Exemplify and discuss ethical dilemmas in research supervision

Disposition of the course

The course is carried out during four full days spread out over a bit more than a month. Since the course is largely organized around the participants' reflections and collegial exchange of experiences, it is important that the course participants are present at preferably all course opportunities. To obtain a course certificate, attendance is required at least 75% of the course time and a written supplementary task if absent any of the days. The purpose of the course being spread over several weeks is that the participants should have time to reflect on the topics discussed also in the practice of supervision at the home department.

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In addition to a number of lectures and practical exercises, a large part of the course will be devoted to collegial exchange and discussions based on readings and preparatory assignments. The following topics are included in the course:

- Postgraduate supervision from an educational perspective.
- The external framework, including rules and regulations governing postgraduate education.
- The importance of the individual study plan for postgraduate supervision.
- The doctoral student's perspective on supervision.
- The professional supervisor
- Ethics and power relations in research supervision.

Assessment

In addition to active participation in the course days, including the preparation that needs to be done for each of the course days, the course is examined through a written reflection assignment in which the course participant chooses one of two tasks: to plan, conduct and evaluate a supervisor interview, or to write a more in-depth reflection after having auscultated during a supervisory meeting.

Participants with approved results on the course receive a course certificate.

Course Literature

Research supervision in theory and practice by Eva Brodin, Jitka Lindén, Anders Sonesson and Åsa Lindberg-Sand (Student literature, Lund 2016). The course book will be sent by the university mail to all participants before the first teaching session.

A literature list of proposed articles is obtained at the start of the course.

Course Leaders:

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