# FORSKARUTBILDNINGSKURSER VID MEDICINSKA FAKULTETEN UMEÅ UNIVERSITET Vårterminen 2023

Deadline för ansökan: 29 november 2022

Obligatoriska kurser för doktorander som deltar i fakultetens forskarutbildningsprogram annonseras i särskild ordning!

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## A practical introduction to biobank research, 3.5 ETCS (online)

En praktisk introduktion till biobanksforskning, 3,5 hp (online)

**Course directors** Maria Wennberg, Stina Bodén, Lena Maria

Nilsson

**Course ddministrator** Maria Wennberg, Department of Public Health

and Clinical Medicine, Section of Sustainable

Health

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**Date** Mandatory seminars on-site in Umeå 29 March

and 31 May 2023

**Number of participants** 15

**Form of teaching** Online lectures 15 hours, Online Seminars 15

hours, Examination task 63 hours

**Knowledge test** Presenting a proposal for withdrawal of biobank

data and samples according to the routines of the NSHDS cohort. Giving feedback on another

student's proposal.

#### Contents of the course

A large proportion of research carried out utilizes research cohorts including biobank samples and survey data combined with other register data. To use already collected cohort data or stored biological samples for research purposes requires planning and preparing the project, and other kinds of practical and methodological considerations. This course will guide you through some of these issues, with examples from the Northern Sweden Health and Disease Study cohort (NSHDS) and refined NSDHS data from the Northern Sweden Diet Database (NSDD). The aim with this course is to give practical knowledge on how to plan and perform observational studies in the NSHDS framework. The knowledge may also be applied on other similar cohorts. In brief, students who successfully complete this course will be able to (1) Overview available data in NSHDS cohort including NSDD. (2) Describe the process and time required for the data application and acquisition. (3) Describe the feasibility and limitations of already collected cohort data for research purposes. (4) Describe pros and cons of the designs nested case-control and cohort studies. (5) Handle missing data. (6) Handle temporal changes in data collection. (7) Handle data on nutrition from NSDD as a main or secondary exposure, including nutritional biomarkers. (8) Handle biological measures. (9) Consider and handle ethical issues including orientation of GDPR. (10) Use knowledge obtained in this course in order to write applications based on samples and/or data from the NSHDS cohort or other similar cohorts.

Minimal required prior knowledge: "Research ethics, 3 ECTS" and "Introductory course to doctoral studies: research methodology and philosophy of science, 3 ECTS"

### Analyzing data in qualitative research, part 2 (online), 4.5 ECTS

Analys av data i kvalitativ forskning, del 2 (online), 4,5 hp

Course director Ida Linander

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Course administrator Ulrika Järvholm

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**Department** Department of Epidemiology and Global Health

**Date** Activities 24 April – 2 June

(Canvas opens 17 April)

**Language** English

**Number of participants** 15

Form of teaching Lectures (online) 20 hours

Seminars (online) 10 hours

**Knowledge test** Home examination

#### **Contents of the course**

The course focuses on the analysis and writing process of qualitative research, focusing on the final stages of developing themes from codes and writing results. The course emphasizes thematic analysis, but also provides an overview of other approaches such as content analysis and grounded theory. The course provides hands-on training into qualitative data analysis, using qualitative data brought by the students. The course also attends to the assessment of quality criteria in qualitative research and on writing and disseminating qualitative research findings. The course also introduced theoretical/conceptual frameworks as a way to advance qualitative analysis. During the course the doctoral students are working with their own qualitative material.

## An introduction to multilevel analysis: An epidemiological approach (online), 3 ECTS

En introduktion till flernivåanalys: Ett epidemiologiskt perspektiv, 3 hp

Course director Masoud Vaezghasemi

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Course administrator Ulrika Järvholm

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**Department** Department of Epidemiology and Global Health

**Date** 27 February – 7 April 2023

**Language** English

**Number of participants** 20

Form of teaching Lectures 18 hours

Practical training

12 hours

Seminars

**Examination** Home exam

#### **Course content**

This course is designed as an intensive, hands-on learning experience that will foster the development of basic skills in multilevel analysis with a focus on fundamental epidemiological concepts and interpretations rather than statistical or mathematical formulae. It starts with a description of why multilevel models are necessary if the data have a hierarchical structure. It then covers the basic theory of two-level models (intercept and random slopes) with emphasis on modelling strategies. Next it explains how multilevel models can be applied to analyse data when the outcome is continuous (linear regression) and when the outcome is dichotomous (logistic regression). Further topics include defining area-level variables and sample size calculation.

## Grundkurs i Good Clinical Practice (GCP) i kliniskt forskningsarbete, 4,5 hp

Basic Good Clinical Practice pertaining to clinical research, 4.5 ECTS

**Kursansvarig** Marcus Lind

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**Kursadministratör** Elin Lindahl

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**Institution** Institutionen för folkhälsa och klinisk medicin

**Datum** 27 – 28 februari (via Zoom) samt 3 – 4 maj (på

plats i Umeå).

**Språk** Svenska

**Antal deltagare** 25

**Undervisningsform** Föreläsningar 20 timmar

Seminarier 12 timmar

**Examinationsform** Skriftlig hemuppgift (instruktion ges vid tillfälle

1), redovisning i grupper i seminarieform (under

tillfälle 2)

#### Kursens innehåll

I kursen ges den studerande grundläggande kunskap om gällande regelverk vid klinisk forskning: Good Clinical Practice (GCP). Vidare ges en orienterande information om de lagar och förordningar som reglerar medicinsk forskning liksom etisk och statistisk värdering av ett forskningsprojekt. Kursen ger kunskap i hur ett studieprotokoll ska vara skrivet samt hur data samlas in och dokumenteras i strukturerad form. Analys av begrepp och regelverk i relation till det egna forskningsområdet fokuseras under kursen och i grupparbeten.

## Informationssökning, referenshantering och publicering, 1,5 hp

Information retrieval, reference management and publication, 1.5 ECTS

**Kursansvarig** Mattias Lennartsson

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**Enhet** Medicinska biblioteket

**Datum** Grupp 1: 14 – 15 mars

Group 2: 21 – 22 mars

**Språk** Svenska (Group 2 in English if there are any

foreign participants)

**Antal deltagare** 36

Undervisningsform Föreläsningar 16 timmar

**Examinationsform** Hemtentamen/Exam questions

#### Kursens innehåll

Informationssökning, referenshantering och publicering

Kursen ger en fördjupad översikt av metoder och källor för informationssökning. Kursens tonvikt ligger på sökstrategier för informationssökning inom medicin och hälsa. Sökning sker i referens- och citeringsdatabaser samt databaser inom evidensbaserad medicin. För referenshantering ingår en genomgång av programmet EndNote. Den strategiska publiceringens roll för genomslag och synlighet ingår, samt publicering med open access. Inkluderad är även information om processer som rör manuskript, peer review, redaktionell beslutsgång och produktion.

Information retrieval, reference management and publication

The aim of this course is to learn different methods in information retrieval. The course gives knowledge about designing search strategies for literature search in medicine and health. Searches are conducted in reference- and citation databases as well as databases in evidence based medicine. Training for reference management in the software EndNote is included. The course includes how the medical publication system works, both through ordinary journals and through open access. Included are processes surrounding manuscript submission, peer review, editorial decision making, and production.

### Introduction to molecular epidemiology, 1.5 ETCS

Introduktion till molekylär epidemiologi, 1,5 hp

**Course director** Sophia Harlid, Anna Dahlin, Wendy

Wu

**Course administrator** Sophia Harlid

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**Department** Department of Radiation Sciences

**Date** 8 – 12 May

**Number of participants** 30

Form of teaching Lectures 10 hours

Group work/discussion 6 hours

**Examination** Active participation in group

discussions and oral presentation

#### Course content

Molecular Epidemiology is becoming increasingly important, both in academia and industry, and is, for example, an invaluable tool in the quickly progressing field of personalized medicine. With focus on different biological measurement approaches and epidemiological study designs, this course gives an introduction to how molecular and epidemiological methods can be used to understand biological processes and infer disease mechanisms. The course also describes how molecular epidemiology can be used for biomarker discovery and follow-up. Different 'Omics' technologies (e.g. genomics, epigenetics and proteomics) will be covered as part of the course.

The course will include group discussions e.g. about ethical considerations regarding use of human samples and sensitive data as well as a mandatory group work where participants design a hypothetical study.

### Introductory course to doctoral studies: Research methodology and philosophy of science, 3 ECTS

Introduktionskurs till forskarstudier: Vetenskapsteori, kunskapsteori och forskningsmetoder, 3 hp

Please note! Compulsory for all doctoral students admitted before July 1, 2021

**Course director** Per Gustafsson

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Course administrator Ulrika Järvholm

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**Department** Department of Epidemiology and Global Health

**Date** Week: 7 + 8 (13 – 24 February)

**Language** English

**Number of participants** 30

Form of teaching Lectures 10 hours

Group exercise 15 hours Individual tasks 10 hours

**Examination** In-class presentation of group work

Submission of individual tasks

#### **Course content**

This course is an introduction to philosophy of science and common concepts and theories used in research, corresponding to national goals. The course gives an overview of different methods and scientific approaches used at the Medical Faculty. Using the diversity of scientific approaches as point of departure, lectures on philosophy of science will give different perspectives of knowledge in medical research. Generic knowledge, research as part of society and how to communicate research will be in focus. Gender, equality and the importance of research in society will be discussed.

The educational format is a mixture of plenary lectures, a heavy emphasis of group and in-class discussion, participant's own presentations and two assignments to work with in two steps, individually before and in groups during the course.

### Qualitative content analysis, 4.5 ECTS

Kvalitativ innehållsanalys, 4,5 hp

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**Course administrator** Birgitta Nilsson

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**Department** Department of Nursing

**Date** 8 – 10 February and 20 – 21 April

**Language** English

**Number of participants** 20

Form of teaching Lectures 10 hours

Hands-on exercise 8 hours Examination seminars 10 hours

**Examination** Written assignment

#### **Course content**

This course focus on qualitative content analysis and covers the method's epistemological base, basic concepts and steps in the analysis process, and provides hands-on exercise of the method. Further we discuss concepts of importance for trustworthiness. Examples on various data (e.g. texts, pictures, video recordings) are discussed. Participants are welcome to use their own data in the course.

### Research ethics, 3 ECTS, (online)

Etik i forskningen, 3 hp

Please note! Compulsory for all doctoral students admitted before July 1, 2021

Course director Klas-Göran Sahlén

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**Department** Department of Epidemiology and Global Health

**Date** 30 January - 3 February 2023

**Number of participants** 30

Form of teaching Online Lectures 20 hours

Online Seminars 10 hours

**Knowledge test** Home exam

#### Contents of the course

Basic concepts and history of research ethics. Ethical reflections on different kind of data. Application to ethical review board. Research on groups with limited autonomy. Misconduct in research. Publication ethics. Archives, openness and secrecy for research data. Data management plan. Introduction to ethics in animal research. Discussion on students' own project.

### Research methodology with biostatistics, 7.5 ECTS

Forskningsmetodik med grundläggande statistik, 7,5 hp

Course director Henrik Holmberg

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**Department** Department of Epidemiology and Global Health

**Date** Course week 1: 27 February – 3 March

Course week 2: 27 March – 30 March

**Language** English

**Number of participants** 35

Form of teaching Lectures 32 hours

Practical exercises 16 hours

**Examination** Home exam

#### **Course content**

The course is an introduction to epidemiology and biostatistics. Basic epidemiological and statistical concepts are covered, and issues of study design and validity are discussed. In biostatistics, lectures focus on sampling, descriptions of data and common tools for data analysis. Practical exercises are also included.

### Writing science: How to write and publish scientific papers, 5 ECTS

Vetenskapligt skrivande: Att skriva och publicera vetenskapliga artiklar, 5 hp

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**Department** Faculty of science and technology

**Date** 17, 24, 31 March and 14, 21, 28 April

**Language** English

**Number of participants** 30

**Form of teaching** Lectures

Writing group discussions and exercises

Concluding classroom discussions

**Examination** Mandatory attendance.

Writing/editing/reviewing exercise for each meeting that builds on the same short article. Analysis and peer review of a set of published

papers.

#### **Course content**

This is an advanced course in scientific writing. To succeed as a scientist the ability to write scientific papers is a central and very important skill. The aim of the course is that students should acquire tools and learn the craft to become skilled scientific writers. It includes the three components of effective communication: content, structure and language. We present the purpose and significance of the major general structure of a scientific paper. Here we highlight why an article must contain the topic of the research, a knowledge gap, a clear research question, a description of methods, results, discussion and conclusions. We present different narrative techniques and analyse how they can be used for better flow and continuity within and between sections. We develop writing skills down to the detailed level of internal structures of paragraphs and sentences.

We meet once a week for six weeks. Each meeting starts with a short lecture focused on scientific writing in practice and based on experience with, for example, journals and editors. Then we make a short introduction to the writing exercise and split into small writing groups of three students. Each student has prepared a text, or revised the text according to the specific exercise, and the other students in the group have commented on the result. Together the students analyze, discuss, and revise the texts to further improve them. The exercises derive from the book Writing Science, which from chapter to chapter provides new tools to better tell the story. Each week, we cover three chapters and the corresponding exercises. Finally we reunite, summarize, conclude, and present the exercise for the next meeting.