

## Embracing your PhD and Post-doc studies – Perspectives on research work, planning, management, knowledge creation and learning”, 1,5 hp

### **Goal**

After the course the student needs to be able to:

- Explain central perspectives and theories related to the topics in the course
- Reflect, analyze and discuss central perspectives and theories in relation to own research work
- Apply central perspectives and theories in planning and managing research endeavors like PhD studies or post-doc projects

### **Content**

The course focuses on how PhD students and post-docs can embrace their studies and aims at creating a better understanding for the type of task, ambiguities involved, the consequences of ambiguity for management, leadership and planning, processes of knowledge creation and perspectives on learning. The course objective is to strengthen the individual's capabilities to master research endeavors like PhD studies or post-doc projects.

The course covers the following topics:

- Research, innovation and ambiguity
- Problem-solving under ambiguous conditions
- (Self-)leadership
- Conflict management
- Project management and planning approaches for ambiguous tasks
- Knowledge and learning
- Knowledge creation processes

The course is primarily designed for PhD students but the course content can also be highly relevant for early career researchers and post-docs.

### **Prerequisites**

No prerequisites necessary. The student needs to have started her/his PhD studies.

### **Target group**

PhD students from the graduate schools Forum Scientium and Agora Materiae and other PhD students with an interest in the course. Post docs are also welcome.

### **Examination**

Active participation in seminars and assignments.

### **Organization**

Classes are scheduled on 30/9, 14/10, 28/10, 15/11, 2/12 and 16/12 16 between 13.15-17.00 during autumn 2021. Presence is required. You can find information about the course and submission of assignments on Lisam:

**INSERT LINK**

### Course leaders

Associate Professor Anna Yström (examiner)  
Professor Nicolette Lakemond

### Main literature

- Burman, Å (2018): The doctoral student handbook: master effectiveness, reduce stress, finish on time. Finish On Time Publications. ISBN 9789198486704 (excerpts from)
- Estelle M. Phillips and D S Pugh: How to get a PhD. Handbook for students and supervisors. Open University Press. ISBN 0335216854 (pb) (excerpts from). Available as e-book at the library.  
<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/linkoping-ebooks/detail.action?docID=650312>

### Course schedule (preliminary – readings and assignments may be updated)

	Date	Activity	Room	Specific reading for seminar	Preparations before seminar
1	30/9 13:15-17:00	Course introduction  Perspectives on research, innovation and problem-solving under ambiguity	TBD	Chapter 1 From what to how – Burman  Chapter 3 The nature of the PhD qualification -Phillips and Pugh  Delamont, S., & Atkinson, P. (2001). Doctoring uncertainty: Mastering craft knowledge. <i>Social studies of science</i> , 31(1), 87-107.	Based on your reading, prepare 1-2 questions for discussion <b>and submit on Lisam</b> .  Complete exercise 1 from the Burman book related to work processes and make note of specific challenges you are currently facing
2	14/10 13:15-17:00	Perspectives on (self)-leadership	TBD	Chapter 2 Doing the right things - Burman  D'Intino, R. S., Goldsby, M. G., Houghton, J. D., & Neck, C. P. (2007). Self-leadership: A process for entrepreneurial success. <i>Journal of leadership &amp; organizational studies</i> , 13(4), 105-120.	Based on your reading, prepare 1-2 questions for discussion <b>and submit on Lisam</b> .  Complete exercise 8 from the Burman book
3	28/10 13:15-17:00	Perspectives on Managing relationships and	TBD	Verma (1998) Conflict Management, The Project Management Institute Project Management Handbook, Ed: Jeffrey Pinto. 1998 (on Lisam)	Based on your reading, prepare 1-2 questions for discussion <b>and submit on Lisam</b> .

		Conflict management		Chapter 7 How to manage your supervisors - Phillips & Pugh	
4	15/11 13:15- 17:00	Perspectives on Project management and planning approaches for ambiguous tasks	TBD	Chapter 3-4 Working in Units, From vague visions to concrete goals - Burman  Pages 93-107 (e-book version) on <b>Project management</b> - Phillips & Pugh  Optional: Atkinson, R., Crawford, L., & Ward, S. (2006). Fundamental uncertainties in projects and the scope of project management. <i>International journal of project management</i> , 24(8), 687-698.	Based on your reading, prepare 1-2 questions for discussion <b>and submit on Lisam.</b>  Exercise 18 in Burman related to goals for the term
5	2/12 13:15- 17:00	Perspectives on Knowledge and learning, knowledge creation processes	TBD	Chapter 4 “How not to get a PhD” - Phillips & Pugh	Based on your reading, prepare 1-2 questions for discussion and <b>submit on Lisam.</b>
6	16/12 13:15- 17:00	Synthesis and presentation of reflection assignment on “how to embrace my PhD studies”  Course closure	TBD		Write personal reflection (4 pages) on “how to embrace my PhD studies” – new perspectives and personal strategies for how to deal with uncertainty and ambiguity in my PhD work ( <b>apply and refer to a relevant selection of course readings</b> )  Upload to your designated group in Collaborative Workspace in Lisam <b>DL: Dec 13 at 17.00</b>