1. Confirmation
The syllabus was confirmed by the Council for Postgraduate Studies on 2015-09-15 to be valid from spring semester 2016.
Responsible institute: Vårdvetenskap

2. Position in the educational system
The course is an elective course within the Third cycle at the Sahlgrenska Academy.

3. Entrance qualifications
Admitted to postgraduate education

4. Course content
Lectures and seminars cover the 'state of the art' in the area regarding its history, concepts, definitions, assessment instruments, analysis methods and epidemiological applications. The following topics will be addressed:
• Why measure HRQoL
• Historical background
• Problems with 'traditional' measures of health
• Added value of HRQoL measurement for research and clinical practice
• Areas of application
• Measurement of different aspects of health status
• Design and construction of assessment instruments
• Testing assessment instruments
• Administration of assessment instruments
• Guidelines for translation and cultural adaptation of assessment instruments
• Strategies for data analysis / interpretation
• Epidemiological applications
• HRQoL in clinical trials

5. Learning outcomes
After completing the course the student is expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding
After completing the course the student is expected to be able to critically discuss:
• Where HRQoL measurement is of particular importance for evaluating care and treatment
• Psychological and social factors that may influence HRQoL ratings
• How assessment instruments are constructed
• Methods for testing assessment instruments
• Pros and cons of different strategies for administering instruments
• Central aspects of data analysis and interpretation
• Principles of instrument translation and cultural adaptation.

Skills and abilities
Choose an assessment instrument appropriate to the aims and hypotheses of the study
• Analyze and interpret generated data.

Judgement and approach
Critically evaluate the pros and cons of different assessment instruments.
• Analyze and interpret data generated from assessment instruments.

6. Required reading
Research articles and handouts for each lecture/ seminar.

7. Assessment
The student must successfully complete a written final examination covering major topics taken up in the course. In two mandatory seminars the student must show a good grasp of the assigned literature, otherwise the student will be given a written compensatory assignment. A doctoral student who has failed a test twice has the right to change examiners, if it is possible. A written application should be sent to the Institute of Health Care and Sciences.
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8. Grading scale
The grades are Pass or Fail.

9. Course evaluation
Course evaluation is carried out in writing with the aid of the Sahlgrenska Academy's joint course evaluation, and orally via a dialogue with the students. The evaluation is compiled in a course report and serves as a guide for developing and planning forthcoming courses.

10. Additional information
The course may be given in English.