SV00014, Qualitative Methods within Health Sciences I, 
5 higher education credits

Third cycle

1. Confirmation
The syllabus was confirmed by the Council for Postgraduate Studies on 2015-03-03 and was last revised on 2016-03-08 to be valid from autumn semester 2016.
Responsible institute: Health and Care Sciences

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
Theoretical science and its foundations related to qualitative research:
- Data collection methods and analysis in qualitative research
- Ethical aspects when using qualitative approaches and methods
- Evidence and utilization of findings from studies carried out with qualitative approaches and methods
- Criteria for quality assurance, trustworthiness and transferability when using qualitative approaches and methods
- Introduction and basic principles of computer supported analysis of qualitative data.

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:
Describe and analyze the theoretical scientific foundations of different qualitative approaches and methods
Describe the research process when using different qualitative approaches and methods
Explain quality criteria, trustworthiness and transferability when using qualitative approaches and methods.

Skills and abilities
Consider and argue for the use of different qualitative research approaches and methods in relation to defined research problems:

- Discuss, distinguish and motivate choices of qualitative approaches and methods for data collection and
data analysis
• Critically analyze data collected by various qualitative approaches and methods
• Present the design for a research question for which qualitative methodology is suitable
• Apply basic principles of computer supported analysis of qualitative data.

Judgement and approach
• Critically judge and argue for the value of qualitative approaches and methods
• Critically reflect over ethical aspects in the use of qualitative approaches and methods
• Consider the importance of pre-understanding and a critical attitude or your own role as researcher when using qualitative methods.

6. Required reading

Edhlund B. NVivo 10 Essentialities. (2010). Sweden: Form & Kunskap. (to order from www. Formkunskap.se; Title in Swedish: Allt om NVivo) (The updated software Nvivo 11 is launched during fall 2015. NVivo 11 Essentials is available in English)

More references recommended by respective teachers will be added later.

7. Assessment
Assessment is performed individually in written as “a paper” which is also orally presented at a seminar, and an practical presentation of computer supported analysis of qualitative data.
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 and Care Sciences.

8. Grading scale
The grades are Pass or Fail.

9. Course evaluation
Course evaluation is carried out individually using the Sahlgrenska Academy joint research course evaluation questionnaire, and orally in the end of last campus meeting as a dialogue between teacher and students. Teacher responsible for the course will write a report summarizing the evaluations from students and involved teachers and including suggestions for development of the course.

10. Additional information