VMFN11 Second-Cycle Project Work
30 higher education credits  Second cycle

General Information

Main field
Biomedicine

Subject
Biomedical subject area of choice.

Type of course and its location in the education system
The course is free-standing from the Master’s programmes in Biomedicine

Language of instruction
English and/or Swedish

Learning Outcomes
On completion of the course, students shall be able to
- plan a project in Biomedicine (formulate a research issue, choose practical and/or statistical-theoretical methods and describe these in a project plan) in consultation with a supervisor
- account for relevant ethical and/or security aspects of the project
- carry out a project (learn the method and document the findings) in cooperation with a supervisor
- independently process and compile the results achieved
- assess their findings with reference to an independently compiled literature review
- write an essay that is formally comparable to published research
- write a popular science summary
- orally present and discuss their findings with reference to literature
- assess and evaluate the significance and limitations of their findings, with reference to the research issue, the chosen method and the procedure
- critically review the project of a fellow student
- justify the scholarly and/or medical value of the project and account for its benefits to society.
Course Content

The course consists of a project in which an experimental and theoretical study related to biomedical research is carried out under supervision.

Subjects examined

For a Pass on the course, students must have completed
- an oral presentation passed by an examiner
- a written report in the form of a scientific journal article in English passes by an examiner and the course director
- a popular science summary passed by the course director
- a critical review of a fellow student’s project passed by the lecturer in charge
- attendance at compulsory stages

On the completion of all subjects examined, 30 credits are awarded for the course.

Instruction and Examination

The project work is to take place under supervision at a higher education institution, company or other public institution where qualified biomedical research and/or development work is conducted. A detailed project plan and a timetable (according to a template) are to be submitted by the student and supervisor and passed by the course director before work on the project can commence. The work on the project, including report writing, a popular science summary and preparation for the oral report, is to comprise studies corresponding to 30 credits. The project work does not only consist of laboratory activities but also comprises preparation, literature studies, compilation of results, evaluation, report writing and completed compulsory courses. A timetable, also to be passed by the course director before work on the project commences, must therefore be attached to the project plan. The supervisor is appointed by the course director, who is responsible for the student’s education during the project work. The task of the supervisor is to ensure that the project work follows the project plan and timetable, i.e. that the work proceeds in a manner adapted to the purpose, that sufficient time is given to report writing and that the final report is well and clearly structured. During the work on the project, the student is to participate in the seminars of the research group or department. Compulsory tuition in presentation techniques is also included in the course.

Each student is examined individually by an examiner appointed in advance. The student is also to present the work in writing, partly as a scientific report and partly as a popular science summary. In addition, the student is to critically review the degree project of a fellow student. Furthermore, attendance is required at compulsory stages. When all course components have
been passed, the learning outcomes of the course have been reached.

Two opportunities for examination are provided each semester. Further examination opportunities are planned according to a separate schedule and take place on the final two days of the study periods of the semester.

Grades
One of the grades Pass or Fail is awarded.

Admission Requirements
To be admitted to the course students must have three years of higher education in biomedicine or other science disciplines such as chemistry, molecular biology or cell biology. If the subject of the project is within biostatistics, bioinformatics or another field closely related to biomedicine, the student’s qualifications are assessed individually, but three years of higher education are required in all cases.

Literature
Research articles or textbooks of relevance to the subject area.