

Preliminary Course Programme

Developing Doctoral Supervision 2018-2019

The course will provide knowledge and skills that qualify and provide security for new PhD supervisors, while simultaneously providing experienced supervisors with tools and inspiration to do an even better job.

The course consists of three modules with 2-day sessions to be held on different campuses at USN. To complete the programme participants will be expected to attend each module, to complete individual assignments between the modules, participate in working on and presenting a group project in Module 3 and submit a short written assignment within one week of the final module.

Target group

- Scientific staff at USN
- Potential, new and experienced supervisors.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, the participant should be able to:

- a) Describe the goal of the research training and the common structure of the doctoral education
- b) Place themselves as research supervisors in a local, historical and international context.
- c) Describe the role and responsibilities of the professional supervisor and how it changes during the course of a PhD.
- d) Reflect on supervisory role in relation to equal opportunities, internationalization and diversity.
- e) Work with a scholarly framework and propose approaches to manage commonly occurring conflicts in connection with the dissertation.
- f) Discuss commonly occurring ethical and legal issues associated with doctoral supervision

Course Team

The course team includes Professor Rob Bongaardt, Professor Rigmor Baraas and associate professor Mona Sæbø as the primary facilitators. The team also includes associate professor Ety Ragnhild Nilsen and professor Tony Burner as faculty advisors. Other speakers/facilitators will be invited as appropriate. Rob Bongaardt is also the academic course leader.

The administrative contact is:

Geir Roughvedt (Research Department HSN) Geir.Roughvedt@usn.no

Language

English

Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods will include lectures, case work, group work. Active participation is expected and participants will also be expected to complete individual assignments between the modules. Course certificate is awarded after participating in all three modules and submitting assignments. The course work should be equivalent to three working weeks.

Prerequisites

Applicants must have a doctoral degree or an equivalent qualification.

Academic content

The main themes of the three modules are as follows:

Module 1 (Wednesday 14 and Thursday 15 November 2018, Campus Kongsberg)

- Approaches to supervision and the supervisor's roles
- Legal issues in supervision
- Research training in national / international context
- PhD thesis: level, dimensions and assessment criteria
- Panel discussion

Module 2 (Thursday 7 and Friday 8 February 2019, Campus Drammen)

- Deepening our understanding of the different approaches to supervision
- Management tools
- Identifying doctorateness
- Ethical challenges in supervision

Module 3 (Monday 27 and Tuesday 28 May 2019, Campus Bø)

- Scholarship of research supervision (group presentations/symposium)
- Conflict management
- Learning contexts
- Supervising the writing process
- Transferable skills
- The supervisor's role in supporting researchers' careers

Timings

Day 1: 1000 to 1700 pm, course dinner (1800–1930)

Day 2: 0830 to 1505 close

Pre course preparation

Before the course, a more detailed programme will be distributed, along with some recommended course readings.

During the course assignment

Participants will work in groups on a theme of their interest related to doctoral supervision. Work starts during the first Module. One must count on working on the theme between Modules. During the final Module this work is presented plenary.

End of course assignment

The final assignment is an opportunity for reflection and occasionally feedback from the course tutors. It is confidential; not graded but must be completed. Sometimes the course tutors may feel that it raises interesting issues that can become part of larger case studies but the authors are always contacted for their permission to do this, and the case studies are changed so that no one can be identified.