

Syllabus for doctoral candidate introductory course, 15 credit points, at the Faculty of Law, Uppsala University

The course objectives

The course aims at imparting graduate students a basic knowledge of – and interest in – epistemological issues and how these themes currently are being discussed in a pluralistic manner; the course also involves the issue concerning how experiences and tools from these discussions can be transferred to the concrete legal theory and method. This means that general epistemological movements are introduced and that these insights may shed light on the legal theory and methodology; moreover, the jurisprudential aspects of practical craftsmanship in thesis writing are addressed.

The teaching

The course includes theoretical lectures and seminars. Some of the seminars relate to literature regarding general scientific movements, and the students will have to write discussions questions in advance; the aim is to use these questions to “translate” the general science theory to the law and to the candidates’ own research topics. Other seminars are dealing with a variety of legal theory issues, and to these seminars each of the professors will give instructions as regards literature and discussion questions. Finally, some seminars are devoted to issues regarding craftsmanship in writing and other similar technical issues that are of interest when working on a doctoral thesis.

The course will be held within about 10 weeks (plus the Christmas and New Year vacation).

Examination

The requirements to pass the course are active participation and writing of a memorandum.