

Søknad til programrådet om innføring av obligatorisk aktivitet og spesifisering av eksamen i PSY4314 Research communication in cognitive neuroscience

Emneansvarlig: Ylva Østby Berger

Jeg søker med dette om å opprette obligatoriske innleveringer i emnet, for å understøtte hensikten med innleveringene, som er å danne grunnlag for en forenklet mappeevaluering. Emnet har per i dag ingen obligatorisk aktivitet, men i praksis møter de aller fleste opp på seminarene, og leverer skriveoppgaver og podcast-innspillinger. Eksamen består i å velge ut to oppgaver de har fått tilbakemeldinger på tidligere, som leveres i Inspera som eksamen. Siden det ikke er obligatorisk å få tilbakemelding på oppgavene underveis per nå, er det litt uklart for både studentene og meg, hva som egentlig forventes av deltakelse. For å sikre at alle som går opp til eksamen har materiale å velge blant, som lærer har gitt tilbakemelding på, foreslår jeg at 3 av innleveringene er obligatoriske, slik at de kan velge to av disse til eksamen. De kan selv velge hvilke innleveringer de vil benytte seg av, og de oppfordres til å delta i alle.

Jeg søker også om å gjøre en liten justering i eksamen. De leverer altså en mappe bestående av to av aktivitetene i løpet av semesteret. Siden jeg planlegger å åpne for flere aktiviteter som ikke har et skriftlig «produkt», ønsker jeg å innføre bruk av refleksjonsnotat dersom studentene velger en muntlig aktivitet som en av sine mappeaktiviteter til eksamen, slik som dette:

«The examination is in the form of a portfolio submission, consisting of two assignments you have been working on during the semester. These can be either written papers or oral presentations/activities, such as a podcast episode, a panel discussion or similar, depending on what you have been participating in during the semester. If an oral activity is being submitted as part of the portfolio, a short description of the activity and a reflection note (including thoughts on learning outcome and significance), not exceeding one page, is included in the submission.»

Karakter er bestått/ikke bestått som før.

Course content

This course teaches students how to reach an audience outside of academia.

Dissemination and communication of research to the general public constitutes one of the core functions of the university. Neuroscientists engage in conversations with society through writing, talks, and participation in media, thus benefiting various parts of our community. Communication skills also benefit scientists. Communicating your own work in a popularized way makes you more aware of what you are actually working on. Communicating general topics to people who are not familiar with psychology and neuroscience helps you broaden your scope and inspires new research questions. Communicating your skills may also come in handy when applying for jobs inside and outside of academia. In this course, you will learn some of the genres of research communication and dissemination within various media, e.g. popularized essays, op-eds, public talks and interviews. The choice of genres and media may vary from semester to semester. There will be assignments, both in writing and other media, on which they are given feedback from the teacher and each other. The course is set up as a series of workshops, with a lot of student participation.

Learning outcome

Knowledge:

You will

- know the characteristics of different genres of research communication
- have a theoretical foundation for your research communication

Skills

You will

- learn how to write about scientific topics in an easy-to-read manner
- be able to structure arguments
- learn how to talk about scientific concepts, methods and results with both integrity and accessibility to various audiences
- plan and arrange an event and/or a podcast episode featuring cognitive neuroscience or psychology

General competence

You will

- reflect on the significance of having a dialogue with society about scientific issues
- extend your scientific knowledge to new problems in life and society
- find ways to trust your own grasp of cognitive neuroscience as well as respecting your own knowledge boundaries

Admission to the course

Students who are admitted to study programmes at UiO must each semester register which courses and exams they wish to sign up for [in Studentweb](#).

If you are not already enrolled as a student at UiO, please see our information about [admission requirements and procedures](#).

Teaching

6 seminars of 3 hours each. The seminars will be a mix between introducing a topic, discussions about the curriculum, in-class exercises and feedback on assignments. . Students are encouraged to submit all assignments. Mandatory activity: submission of at least three assignments of the student's choice. If a live event is one of the activities, participation in the event counts as an assignment. If a podcast is one of the activities, the recording counts as an assignment.

Examination

The examination is in the form of a portfolio submission, consisting of two assignments you have been working on during the semester. These can be either written papers or oral presentations/activities, such as a podcast episode, a panel discussion or similar, depending on what you have been participating in during the semester. If an oral activity is being submitted as part of the portfolio, a short description of the activity and a reflection note (including thoughts on learning outcome and significance), not exceeding one page, is included in the submission.

Examination support material

Generating all or part of the exam answer using AI tools such as Chat GPT or similar is not allowed, unless it is an integral part of the research communication activity. This will need to be approved by the course responsible before final submission of the exam portfolio.

Language of examination

The examination text is given in English, and you submit your response in English.

Grading scale

Grades are awarded on a pass/fail scale. Read more about [the grading system](#).