**Doctoral School in Educational Sciences: Learning, Interaction and Schooling (DSES-LEARN)**

**Comparative research on education and educational performance, 7,5+7,5 ECTS. Ph.D. course**

*Course leaders:*
Professor Sverker Lindblad, University of Gothenburg, e-mail: sverker.lindblad@ped.gu.se  
Dr. Gun-Britt Wärvik, University of Gothenburg, e-mail: gun-britt.warvik@ped.gu.se

*Teachers:*
Professor Jan-Eric Gustafsson, University of Gothenburg  
Professor Tom Popkewitz, University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Professor Gita Steiner-Khamsi, Columbia University, New York, President for Comparative and International Education Society

*For information:* http://www.ipd.gu.se/english/research/research_programmes/lincs/dses-learn/  
Questions should be directed to Hans Rystedt, Director of Studies.  
E-mail: hans.rystedt@ped.gu.se

Comparative research is an important, and controversial, tradition within education research – on one side linked to notions of modernisation and development, and on the other side to the power to define what is to be compared and what to do with outcomes of comparisons. We will present and discuss major research approaches and research strategies in comparative and international education studies combined with “hands-on” workshops. Focus is on comparative education research in contemporary societies. Here, comparisons often are used for evaluating the performances of national education systems as well as schools in local districts. Thus, we will examine current discourses – on comparative education and their significance for the politics of education in terms of e.g. league tables and ranking lists, and for revising curricula. Special emphasis will be placed on issues of globalisation, power/knowledge and notions of borrowing and lending in education.

After completing the course the students will be able to:
- Identify major research traditions within comparative education research and their respective theoretical and methodological foundations  
- Present and discuss theoretical and methodological foundations of comparative analyses of education systems and processes  
- Critically analyse current discourses on comparisons and modernisation in terms of internationalisation and globalisation  
- Identify and carry out preliminary analyses of available secondary data in comparative research  
- Relate their research interest to current approaches within comparative education studies.
Literature:

1. RESEARCH TRADITIONS IN COMPARATIVE EDUCATION RESEARCH

2. CLASSROOM DISCOURSES AND LEARNING PRACTICES
      http://www.emis.de/proceedings/PME28/RF/RF004.pdf

3. EDUCATION PERFORMANCES AND EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS
   d. OECD: Education at a glance

4. COMPARATIVE EDUCATION DISCOURSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 19</td>
<td>3 – 5 pm</td>
<td>On line seminar, Fronter: Introduction of course and presentation of participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reading and work period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 12</td>
<td>3 – 5 pm</td>
<td>Online literature seminar, Fronter:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reading and work period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 25</td>
<td>From “lunch to lunch”</td>
<td>Physical meeting in Gothenburg: lectures and seminars JEG, JE or SL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 26</td>
<td></td>
<td>Physical meeting in Gothenburg: lectures and seminars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 27</td>
<td></td>
<td>Physical meeting in Gothenburg: lectures and seminars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reading and work period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>3 – 5 pm</td>
<td>On line literature seminar, Fronter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reading and work period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 6</td>
<td>From “lunch to lunch”</td>
<td>Physical meeting in Gothenburg: lectures and seminars Discussion of final essays TP and GSK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 7</td>
<td></td>
<td>Physical meeting in Gothenburg: lectures and seminars Discussion of final essays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 8</td>
<td></td>
<td>Physical meeting in Gothenburg: lectures and seminars Discussion of final essays</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examination:

Basic part: Active participation in all course activities, including net activities and physical meetings is required

Final individual essay

Optional extension part: Individual research essay within the topic of the course, to be examined in a seminar