

RESEARCH PLAN
KRUS

Period
2016-2020

The University College of Norwegian Correctional Service (KRUS) has an exceptional position within the field of correctional studies. We carry out versatile applied and grounded research and development work in interaction with the management of the prison and the probation service.

Aim

In dialogue and cooperation with public services, NGO's, universities, university colleges and other research institutions nationally and internationally we will carry out and publish research that contributes to professional education and best practice within the Correctional Service and addresses issues of interest for crime politics and policy.

Fundamental values

Research is carried out in accordance with acknowledged scientific and ethical principles founded on the principle of academic freedom (cf. Act relating to Universities and University Colleges § 1-5). Honesty and integrity are fundamental to research that should challenge established notions and dogmas. The researchers subject themselves to standards of publishing within their respective disciplines, and they are obliged to maintain and improve their scientific competence.

We will

- Carry out empirically based research within the field of correctional studies
- Improve the knowledge of professionalism and best practice in the Correctional Service
- Clarify the complexity and identify the challenges in the execution of sentences
- Contribute to the development of a knowledge based practice in the Correctional Service

Objective 1

The education and training of prison officers and other correctional staff shall gain knowledge and insights from research and development of best practice. The students/trainees will learn about research results at KRUS. If and when feasible, they will also have the possibility of contributing in research and development.

Initiatives

- Involve 20 % of the researchers' positions in teaching, planning of teaching and curriculum
- Define and prioritise projects founded on KRUS' strategy and the curriculum of prison officers
- Include staff from different departments at KRUS in research projects
- Free 20 % of the resources in the study department to research and development
- Establish a committee to assess applications for research and development projects

Objective 2

Ensure the relevance of research findings for better performance in the Correctional Service.

Initiatives

- Develop and advocate analytical concepts and new ideas in order to accomplish improved understanding of best practice
- Establish professional cooperation with universities and university colleges that carry out research on professions and professionalism

Objective 3

Courses and further training shall be founded on corroborated knowledge from research.

Initiative

- Encourage and sustain a close interplay between research and development

Objective 4

Research findings will be published and conveyed to both practitioners in the Correctional Service, researchers and others that may want or benefit from the findings.

Initiatives

- Set aims for numbers of articles, books, conference presentations, media coverage etc.
- Register the research in Cristin og CORA
- Establish systems for internal peer reviewing
- Publish in national and international journals and books
- Facilitate for publishing in "Open Access"

Objective 5

Employ personnel with the same level of education and competence as comparable universities and university colleges.

Initiatives

- Facilitate for higher education at PhD level, and qualification to professor positions
- Cooperate with other agencies and institutions in funding PhD students
- Recruit associate professors and professors

Objective 6

Initiate research projects in cooperation with other universities, university colleges and research institutions.

Initiatives

- Participate in research networks
- Prioritise cooperation with researchers and research institutions that are relevant for our research
- Apply for funding of research projects
- Initiate and prioritise participation with international research networks

Prioritised research fields

- Criminology (basic)
- The execution of sentences (including law)
- Professions and professionalism
- Security, safety, care and ethics
- Rehabilitation and reintegration
- Theory and methodology in correctional studies