



APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR 2006/2007

GRA 6026 Organization Science

Program

Common Course

Responsible for the course

Thorvald Hærem

Department

Leadership and Organizational Management

Term

According to study plan

ECTS Credits

6

Objective

One of the main objectives of this course is to provide the students with an in depth understanding of organizations. Organizations are a main tool that modern society applies to meet the challenges of innovation and resolution of complex tasks. To understand how to organize to resolve the various challenges that organizations meet is a main focus of this course. The course provides a review of the main contributions to organization research up to present times. Another main objective is to provide students with a background to understand the changes in organizational structures that, today, are observable in the private as well as in the public sectors. Understanding new organizational forms - why they are emerging and which characteristics they bear - are of central importance for managers acting in these sectors. Therefore, the course also aims at giving the students a deeper understanding of the present "experiments" in organizational structures and processes.

Prerequisites

A Bachelor's degree qualifying for admission to the MSc programme.

Compulsory literature

Books:

Scott, W. Richard. 2003. Organizations : Rational, natural, and open systems. 5th ed.. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall Pearson Education

Recommended literature

Course outline

- Introduction, Organizations as rational, natural & open systems
- Organizations as Rational systems
- Organizations as Natural systems
- Organizations as Open Systems
- Designing Organizations & Combining Perspectives
- Organizations & Environment
- The Nature of the Firm
- Boundary Spanning & Boundary Setting
- Technology & Structure: Coordination & Routines
- Environment & Structure
- Modern Organizational forms

Computer-based tools

Blackboard/homepage

Course structure

The course is structured as seminars, combining lectures with active dialogues. The course will combine text book readings with research articles. The lectures will utilize current business cases to illustrate main points in the literature. There are two obligatory case assignments which are designed to train the students in application of the theory to real situations.

Evaluation

Three hour written exam. Subject to pass in two obligatory assignments.

Evaluation code(s)

GRA60261accounts for 100 % of the final grade in the course GRA 6026.

Aids at the examination

Bilingual dictionary

Makeup exam

Re-takes are only possible at the next time a course will be held. When course evaluation consists of class participation or process elements, the whole course must be re-evaluated when a student wants to retake an exam. Retake examinations entail an extra examination fee.

Honor Code

Academic honesty and trust are important to all of us as individuals, and they are encouraged and promoted by the honor system. This is a most significant university tradition. The honor system is the responsibility of students. As faculty, we share the commitment to the ideals of the honor system.

At no time should notes or papers or personal consultations based on previous semesters of this course be used. As part of the honor code papers handed in as part of the course is, at the discretion of the professor, scanned for plagiarism. We are using Safe Assignment in Black Board for this purpose. Any violation of the honor code will be dealt with in accordance with BI's procedures on cheating. These issues are a serious matter to everyone associated with the program. They are at the heart of the Honor Code and academy integrity. If you have any questions about your responsibilities under the honor code, please ask.