GRA 3151 Theories of innovation

Program
Master in Innovation and Entreprenuership, Specialization Course

Responsible for the course
Tor Hernes

Department
Innovation and Economic Organisation

Term
According to study plan

ECTS Credits
6

Language of instruction
English

This course is a basic theoretical building block of the programme. It discusses the nature of innovation processes and explores appropriate theories for analysing innovation processes.

Objective
This course has three distinct aims:
- To explain the analytical principles for the programme as a whole.
- To explain theories available for the study of innovation processes
- To explain the theories principally used in this program, and discuss their applicability, potential and limitations.

The general aim behind the programme idea is to ensure tight connection between theory and practice throughout the entire programme. Practical examples will be used to the extent possible to illustrate innovation processes in practice, and the kinds of dilemmas, choices and courses of action that managers confront. The aim is *not* to provide a broad ramge of theories, but rather to provide a selection of theories which can be brought into the programme and explored from different angles. Such an approach gives a better chance for the students to actually familiarise themselves with the background of the theories and how they may be applied, both by practioners involved in innovation processes and researchers who study them.

Prerequisites
A bachelor degree qualifying for entrance to the master program in innovation and entrepreneurship.

Compulsory literature
Books:
Van de Ven, Andrew H., Douglas Polley, Raghu Garud and Sankaran Venkatamaran. 1999. The innovation journey. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Articles:
Akrich, Madeleine; Michel Callon and Bruno Latour. 2002. The key to success in innovation part I: The art of interessement. International Journal of Innovation Management 6(2):187-206.
Akrich; Michel Callon and Bruno Latour. 2002. The key to success in innovation part II: The art of choosing good spokespersons. International Journal of Innovation Management 6(2):207-225.
Callon, Michel. 1986. Some Elements of a Sociology of Translation: Domestication of the Scallops and the Fishermen of St Brieuc Bay. Pp. 196-233 in Power, Action and Belief: A New Sociology of Knowledge, edited by John Law. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul.
Law, John. 1992. Notes on the theory of actor-networks: ordering, strategy, and heterogenity. Systems Practice 5(4):379-393.
Mørk, Bjørn Erik, Thomas Hoholm and Margunn Aanestad. 2006. Constructing, enacting and packaging innovations. European Journal of Innovation Management 9(4):444-465.

Recommended literature

Course outline
The course is divided into 5 modules, which will be taught in chronological sequence.
Module 1: Basic elements of innovation processes.
Module 2: Basic features of innovation processes.
Module 3. Types of theories and their uses.
Module 4. Descriptive theories of innovation processes.
Module 5. Explanatory theories.

Computer-based tools
Standard, Blackboard/homepage

Course structure
24 hours divided into regular lectures.

Specific Information regarding student evaluation will be provided in class. Please note that while attendance is not compulsory in all courses, it is the student's responsibility to obtain any information provided in class that is not included on the course homepage/Blackboard or text book.

Evaluation
Term paper, written individually or in groups of maximum 3 students.

Evaluation code(s)
GRA31511 accounts for 100 % of the final grade in the course GRA3151

Aids at the examination
Paper: all
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 me re-evaluated when a student wants to retake a exam. Retake examinations entail an extra examination fee.

Honor Code
Academic honesty and trust are important to all of us as individuals, and represent values that are encouraged and promoted by the honor code system. This is a most significant university tradition. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the ideals of the honor code system, to which the faculty are also deeply committed.

Any violation of the honor code will be dealt with in accordance with BI's procedures for cheating. These issues are a serious matter to everyone associated with the programs at BI and 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.