



APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR 2009/2010

GRA 2239 Leadership in Organizations

Programme

Master of Science in Leadership and Organizational Psychology, Specialization Course

Responsible for the course

Department

Department of Leadership and Organizational Behaviour

Term

According to study plan

ECTS Credits

6

Language of instruction

English

Introduction

Leadership is a complex issue, and as an academic field, it is persistently stimulated and challenged by inputs from practice, from marketing fads and from the re-invention of old ideas. This is a course that aims to make the students acquainted with leadership as an empirical research field with relevance to practical applications in society. The focus is on how theoretical models of leadership may be substantiated by empirical research, and how these findings may be of practical value to leadership development in organizations.

Learning outcome

The purpose of this course is to provide graduate students with the following three knowledge bases:

1. How has "leadership" been conceptualized theoretically in the social sciences, and how have these theories evolved?
2. What is the current status of empirical leadership research, with a special emphasis on:
3. What is the relationship between leadership and organizational performance?
- 4: How can leadership be measured?
5. What can be said about leadership development from an academic perspective? What develops and what are the possible approaches to this development?

In addition to these academic learning contents, the students will be trained to read scientific contributions in this field and apply them to issues of practical interest to the general public. Upon ending this course, they will have a basic understanding of the main methodological issues involved in undertaking research on leadership.

Prerequisites

Bachelor Degree in Economics, Marketing or equivalent qualifying for admission to the MSc program

Compulsory reading

Books:

Yukl, Gary A. 2010. Leadership in organizations. 7th ed. Upper Saddle River, N.J. : Pearson Prentice Hall

Collection of articles:

A collection of research articles will be made available at the start of the course

Other:

During the course there may be hand-outs and other material on additional topics relevant for the course and the examination.

Recommended reading

Course outline

Regular lectures are interspersed with group presentations of contrasting views on leadership with the aim of creating group discussions about the ramifications of the various theories.

Computer-based tools

Blackboard/homepage

Learning process and workload

The course duration is 36 hours and includes lectures, group discussions, seminars/minor workshops.

In this course class attendance is mandatory. Unexcused absence can result in a lower score. 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 own responsibility to obtain any information provided in class that is not included on the course homepage/Blackboard or text book.

Examination

Students are required to make class presentations in groups and write a term paper. Presentations and term paper will be weighted 30% and 70%, respectively, in the final grade.

Specific information regarding student evaluation beyond the information given in the course description will be provided in class. This information may be relevant for requirements for term papers or other hand-ins, and/or where class participation can be one of several elements of the overall evaluation.

Exam code(s)

GRA 22391 accounts for 100 % of the final grade in the course GRA 2239.

Examination support materials

Exam aids at written examinations are explained under exam information in our web-based Student handbook. Please note use of calculator and dictionary.

<http://www.bi.edu/studenthandbook/examaids>

Re-sit examination

Re-takes are only possible at the next time a course will be held. When the course evaluation has a separate exam code for each part of the evaluation it is possible to retake parts of the evaluation. Otherwise, the whole course must be re-evaluated when a student wants to retake an exam. Retake examinations entail an extra examination fee

Additional information**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 academic integrity. If you have any questions about your responsibilities under the honor code, please ask.