



APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR 2009/2010

ORG 2000 Leadership in Action - Final Bachelor Program in Leadership

Programme

Bachelor of Management

Responsible for the course

Department

Department of Innovation and Economic Organisation

Term

According to study plan

ECTS Credits

30

Language of instruction

To be decided

Introduction

Leadership in Action is a final Bachelor in Leadership programme, a mandatory 30 credits programme leading to the award of the title Bachelor of Management.

The target group of the Bachelor in Management course is primarily adult students who have completed courses/modules at BI Norwegian School of Management and/or other colleges of higher education or universities, but without having completed a degree course. This course offers the target groups the opportunity to complete a degree at BI Norwegian School of Management.

Learning outcome

The aim of the programme is to provide a final, Bachelor level course based on reflection within the areas of management and organisation.

The programme is both process-based and knowledge-based and adapted to suit the learning situations of adult students and those already in employment. BI's Leadership in Action therefore offers a combination of:

- collaborative learning and stimulating meetings with participants in employment with experiences from many fields
- a choice of options and tailormaking of some of the course literature, as well as individual learning assignments
- a project paper which will mesh with the interests of the individual and his/her business
- a foundation in an appropriate knowledge framework and personal guidance for further learning
- use of action learning and active reflection in order to stimulate a deeper level of awareness with respect to various aspects of leadership and organisation.

The programme views leadership as an opportunity to release human potential and reflection. The programme is therefore to be an arena for dialogue, reflection, learning and action (cf. the title Leadership in Action or LiA). The experiences, challenges and issues of the participants themselves form the basis of the programme – these will be "confronted" with new forms of leadership, relevant theories and methods with respect to practical new thinking and reflection. By working in project groups and in groups working on other assignments, as well as individually, participants will work on solutions and shed light on relevant problems from their own organisation or other organisations. The learning outcomes depend on active participation and participants taking responsibility for their own learning while interacting with others.

The programme also aims to promote multiple perspectives on leadership. Leadership and organisation are complex subjects and areas of practice in which one can never become a complete expert. There are no easy solutions. The programme will therefore particularly emphasize the following:

- development of integrated learning and stimulating participants' awareness of competent leadership
- encouraging the development of a constructive and reflective attitude towards concrete, contemporary and future-oriented issues in the fields of leadership, organization, renewal and strategic development;
- development of knowledge, creativity and integrity with respect to leadership in action.

The term integrity is related to what participants already know, in addition to creating suitable opportunities

for further learning in an ethical manner. The target group is primarily adults with management experience who wish to develop their leadership skills and qualify themselves for new responsibilities. It also includes employees who have been in an organisation for some time and whose ambition it is to take on the challenge of becoming a leader and/or co-creator.

After the course participants should have:

- * a good overview and understanding of a variety of perspectives on leadership
- * increased self-awareness and the ability to reflect on the execution of leadership
- * knowledge of and some practice in communication, team work and handling leadership challenges
- * increased awareness of leadership dilemmas with respect to ethics and values.

Prerequisites

Admission requirement: A minimum of 120 credits from college and/or university level courses. In addition, participants must be at least 25 years old and have 4 years of employment experience in order to be considered for admission.

In order to be awarded the title Bachelor of Management, participants must have 180 credits (completed and passed courses) approved by BI, as shown in the study model for the Bachelor of Management.

Compulsory reading

Books:

Coghlan, David and Teresa Brannick. 2005. Doing action research in your own organization. 2nd ed. London : Sage Publications

Ibsen, Henrik. 2005. Bygmester Solness. Oslo: Gyldendal. OBS Alle leser dette skuespillet; felles utgangspkt. for dialog om ledelse på et mindre kontor, selvledelse, etikk i arbeidsrelasjoner mv.

Johannessen, Jon Arild og Bjørn Olsen. 2008. Positivt lederskap : jakten på de positive kreftene. Bergen : Fagbokforlaget

Krogh, Georg von, Kazuo Ichijo, Ikujiro Nonaka. 2001. Slik skapes kunnskap : hvordan frigjøre taus kunnskap og inspirere til nytenkning i organisasjoner. Oslo : NKS Forlaget. Unntatt kap.10 (foretrekker man å lese engelsk, finnes eng. utg.)

Moxnes, Paul. 2007. Fasett-mennesket : personlighet og rolle : et lederopplæringsperspektiv. Oslo : Forl. Paul Moxnes

Sewerin, Thomas. 2009. Teams, leadership and coaching. Malmø : Tertulia Books. Dette er en perspektivrik, stimulerende bok som kan brukes som arbeidsbok og 'følgesvenn' i kurset

Articles:

Jevnaker, Birgit H. 2000. Dynamikk mellom innovasjon og design i bedrifter. Magma, tidsskrift for økonomi og ledelse. Fagbokforlaget. Innblikk i hvordan ledere kan samarbeide og utvikle ny strategisk kompetanse i bedriftens fornyelse, design og innovasjonsprosesser (utdeles). Samling strategiartikler (min. 3 artikler plukkes ut av faglærer i starten av kurset)

Other:

- Utdelt materiale er obligatorisk.

Recommended reading

Books:

Amundsen, Oscar og Trond Kongsvik. 2008. Endringskynisme. Oslo : Gyldendal akademisk

Askheim, Ola Gaute Aas og Tor Grennes. 2008. Kvalitative metoder for markedsføring og

organisasjonsfag. Oslo : Universitetsforlaget

Bolman, Lee G. og Terrence E. Deal. 2004. Nytt perspektiv på organisasjon og ledelse : strukturer, sosiale relasjoner, politikk og symboler. 3. utg. Oslo : Gyldendal Akademisk. (Oversatt god innføringsbok ut fra 4 perspektiver)

Ekman, Gunnar. 2004. Fra prat til resultat : om lederskap i hverdagen. Oslo : Abstrakt forlag

Fineman, Stephen, David Sims, Yiannis Gabriel. 2005. Organizing and organizations. 3rd ed.

London : Sage. Lett å lese, gir nye perspektiver på organisering og organisasjoner

Forsth, Leif-Runar. 2004. Praktisk nytenkning : systematisk og kreativ problemløsning. Oslo: Aquarius forlag. En innføringsbok i kreative metoder er anbefalt.

Goldman, Daniel. 2002. Emosjonell intelligens : å tenke med hjertet. Oslo: Gyldendal

Hedberg, Bo ... [et al.]. 1997. Virtual organizations and beyond : discover imaginary systems. Chichester : John Wiley

Haaland, Frode H. og Frode Dale. 2005. På randen av ledelse : en veiviser i

førstegangsledelse. Oslo: Gyldendal Akademisk

Jackson, Brad and Parry, Ken. 2008. A very short, fairly interesting and reasonably cheap book about studying leadership. Los Angeles : Sage

Martinsen, Øyvind L., red. 2004. Perspektiver på ledelse. 2. utg. Oslo : Gyldendal akademisk.

Denne boken lar leseren bli kjent med sentrale perspektiver og diskusjoner om ledelse

internasjonalt, se f.eks. bidrag fra Mintzberg og Yukl.

McNiff, Jean & Jack Whitehead. 2006. All you need to know about action research. London : Sage. Anbefalt om fokus er aksjonsforskning om hvordan endre eget arbeid, lett å lese.

Northouse, Peter G. 2009. Introduction to leadership : concepts and practice. Los Angeles : Sage

Roos, Göran, Georg von Krogh og Johan Roos; med Lisa Fernström. 2005. Strategi : en innføring. 4. utg. Bergen : Fagbokforlaget. Faglig solid innføringsbok på norsk i forskjellige måter å forstå strategi. Siste utgave har mer om dynamisk strategi og innovasjon, samt markedsføring. Sterkt anbefalt å lese en innføringsbok i strategi.

Selvik, Arne. 2005. Omgitt av løgnere : om ærlige tilbakemeldinger til ledere. Bergen : Fagbokforlaget

Sewerin, Thomas. 1996. En plass i stolen : en arbeidsbok for grupper om grupper. Dalby : MIL Publishers. Kan evt. brukes som supplement for Sewerins bok på engelsk hvis du foretrekker å lese norsk (det er noe overlapp med ny bok), men den nye boken er nå oblig. pensum.

Strand, Torodd. 2007. Ledelse, organisasjon og kultur. 2. utg. Bergen : Fagbokforlaget. En meget omfattende og solid framstilling av ledelsesproblematikk, noe av det beste på norsk. Svært nyttig også som oppslagsbok.

Sørhaug, Tian. 1996. Om ledelse : makt og tillit i moderne organisering. Oslo : Universitetsforlaget. (f.eks. kap. 2)

Yukl, Gary A. 2010. Leadership in organizations. 7th ed. Upper Saddle River, N.J. : Pearson Prentice Hall. Meget god bok for oversikt over klassisk ledelsesforskning internasjonalt

Articles:

Jevnaker, Birgit H. 2002-2003. Exploring the innovating inbetween : industrial design as boundary work. International Journal of New Product Development and Innovation Management. 4. s. 339-358. el. tilsvar. bokkap utdeles. Se spesielt typologi over grenseaktiviteter.

Other:

- BI Nettstudier/Nomme, Roald mfl. 2009. Leadership in Action studieguide. Siste utg. Oslo : BI nettstudier. En veiledning laget spesielt for nettstudier, men kan være nyttige for flere. Anbefalt!

- Ibsen, Henrik. 2006. En folkefiende. Alt. utg. kan brukes. Egner seg for dialog om varsling og etikk.

- Ytterligere ref., spør faglærer og se f.eks. Jevnaker, Birgit H. Leadership in Action - Anbefalt litteraturliste (flere ref.). www.bi.no, søk på BI ansatt Birgit H. Jevnaker, og klikk på Leadership in Action. (Tips til valg av eget relevant pensum for synopsis oppgave - obs eget valg av litteratur skal godkjennes av lokal faglærer).

Anbefalt litteratur: alle forslag til anbefalt litteratur er ment som inspirasjon og forslag for ulike behov og til å søke videre selv!

Course outline

Leadership in Action, a final Bachelor of Leadership Programme, consists of the following five modules/thematic units:

1. Leadership in perspective
2. Strategic management and organisation
3. Personal and competent leadership
4. Interaction and leadership in networks
5. Leadership in action

The order of thematic units 2-4 may be altered to suit local needs. Any such alterations will be made known to participants well in advance. The programme will also be flexibly implemented and relevant issues may be raised across modules in order to facilitate integrated learning, as well as to meet needs arising during the course of the programme.

The literature encompasses *approx. 2250 pages in total, including both mandatory literature and literature selected by individual participants according to the topics they have selected and in consultation with course instructors*. Course handouts are part of the mandatory literature. Students are expected to read all the mandatory literature, but not all works listed under recommended literature.

* Much of what is listed under "recommended literature" is meant as a list of ideas to inspire participants in their search for literature of particular relevance to their selected topics. Link to a longer recommended reading list: http://www.bi.no/BI/AcademicProfile____37600.aspx?ansattid=/FGL98006 (or search on the BI website of the local course responsible).

Changes may be made in the literature. Information regarding mandatory literature is normally available well in advance of the course. (If you have any queries, please contact your local course instructor.)

A description of each module is to be found in the additional information section below. Local course instructors will provide details on each module, including advice on literature, at the beginning of the course and prior to each session.

Computer-based tools

See course structure and implementation.

Learning process and workload

The course structure is based on the principles of proximity and distance. The programme runs over two semesters and is organised into five modules (usually five sessions), in addition to the participants' own individual studies. (Sessions may be arranged flexibly in consultation with the national Programme Officer and total a maximum of 17 days). The option of considering locating one of the sessions (e.g. the final one) elsewhere (in Norway or abroad) is usually considered – in order to promote interaction, learning by experience and international competence, based on a nationally coordinated, action learning study programme.

In order to provide best possible integrated learning in theory/practice, the programme is based on active participation by students and entails regular attendance and a sharing of responsibility by participants for their own learning. Mandatory requirements for the award of a course certificate are participation at a minimum of 75% of the sessions in addition to a completed and passed examination (30 credits). Normally participation in all modules is a prerequisite for a pass grade in the course examination.

The Programme "Leadership in Action" will be related to the students' own experiences. Participants are therefore required to bring along issues from their own everyday experiences as employees/leaders. In the course of the programme these issues will be subjected to a process consisting of meaningful exchanges of experience, action and reflection tasks and project work leading to action plans.

There will be lectures by course leaders and invited guest speakers. At the individual sessions, participants will be working on a variety of mini-projects, cases and team training.

Within a give framework, individual participants are to develop their own syllabus and be examined on this syllabus. In this course description there is therefore a relatively comprehensive list of recommended reading. The function of many of these books is to be an inspiration for individual literature searches and syllabus adaptation. Overall, the literature selected by participants must satisfy the bachelor degree level requirements of the course. (The course instructor will therefore give advice and an evaluation of the literature suggested by participants.)

ICT (Information and Communication Technology) is to be used actively by all participants, and participation in online activities is compulsory. An introduction to the use of relevant computer programmes will be given at the beginning of the course. The programme will have its own online guidance service on which information may be exchanged. Discussion groups and email are the basis for continuous dialogue between students and supervisors and between students themselves.

BI Online Studies

The teaching platform Apollon is normally used for BI Online Studies, in addition to seminars. Online tutors will publish material, practice tasks (including assignments to be submitted and feedback on these) as well as any case studies or other digital learning resources on Apollon. Students are given the opportunity to communicate with their online tutor and fellow students. Online students are also given access to a study guide, a pedagogical guide to syllabus literature.

Examination

The course concludes with an individual oral synopsis examination and a project paper (1-3 participants). The evaluations are an integrated part of the learning process. Both examinations must be completed and passed (See requirements under Evaluation Codes).

(1) Synopsis examination:

Participants are to write an individual synopsis paper (a theory and reflection report) of 3-5 pages excluding references and attachments, based on the relevant literature (minimum 700 pages) selected by individual participants for their chosen topic in consultation with and approved by the course instructor. (The principle part of the literature referred to must be from the individually selected syllabus, although compulsory literature should naturally also be referred to where relevant). All individually selected literature and the relevant obligatory syllabus are to be referred to in the body of the text, as well as in a complete list of references which is to be attached. (See BI rules on writing citations and references.)

The synopsis paper is to be delivered in advance and also be brought to the oral examination (without additional notes/ comments. Candidates are not permitted to consult any other literature during the oral examination.) This individual work is a precondition for and the basis of the oral synopsis examination. Candidates may also be invited to discuss topics from the obligatory syllabus during the oral examination.

The criteria underlying the overall evaluation are as follows:

1) Demonstrated ability to find fruitful and relevant perspectives and present knowledge with

respect to the formulation of a limited topic or issue in focus. 2) Demonstrated ability to discuss and summarise using a variety of perspectives and an actively reflective and independent, and if possible creative relationship to knowledge, sources and the topic selected. 3) Demonstrated competence and maturity in approaching interactions in a constructive and ethical manner with respect to dilemmas in leadership and organisation and the challenges focused upon. Grades will be awarded on the basis of the oral synopsis examination, including the written synopsis and reflection on literature selected (one grade awarded only).

(2) Project paper

Project work is to be carried out in groups of up to 3 people and based on the issues participants have brought along and which are to be evaluated in the form of a project paper. The paper is to be based on the participants' own empirical material (see instructions and evaluation criteria in the text on project papers.)

Exam code(s)

ORG 20001 Leadership in Action - Oral synopsis examination counting 40 % towards an approved grade in ORG 2000, 30 ECTS credits.

ORG 20002 Leadership in Action - Project paper counting 60% towards an approved grade in ORG 2000, 30 ECTS credits.

Both examinations must be completed and passed with an overall grade of E or better in order to achieve an approved grade on course ORG 2000, 30 ECTS credits. See descriptions above regarding evaluation.

Examination support materials

Only the individual written report (synopsis text without additional comments) is permitted in the oral examination and this will be the basis of the oral evaluation.

Re-sit examination

Makeup examinations take place in conjunction with the next scheduled examination.

Additional information

Module 1: LEADERSHIP IN PERSPECTIVE

Objectives

At the end of the first session, participants are to have acquired an introductory overview and understanding of the challenges and approaches to leadership and organisation in the current organisational climate. Leadership is put into perspective to promote further learning. This includes both perspectives on how to create knowledge and an introduction to the use of the action, reflection and learning methods in the programme.

Main topics

- * Introduction and overview of Leadership in Action, final Bachelor Programme in Leadership
- * Who are we, where do we come from and where are we going? Presentation of participants and course leaders; current positions and developmental aims
- * New perspectives and relevant specialist baggage for a journey into organisations of the future
- * How to shape and exploit the programme through creative approaches and project work
- * Motivation and good interaction for leadership – subject-based and social events in the programme
- * Introduction to ICT (Information and Communication Technology) to be used in the programme
- * Utilisation of potential learning resources: more creative ways of working
- * Learning about leadership in action: inspiration, subject plans, tools for learning and collaboration
- * Integrating perspectives: Learning from living experiences and future prospects: guest speakers with topical challenges

Module 2: STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP AND ORGANISATION

Objectives

At the end of the second session participants are to have gained insight into how strategic knowledge resources may be organised to meet new challenges and trends. Participants should thus be able to draw connections between current positions and future value-adding situations.

Main topics

- * Overview and main ideas in strategic leadership
- * Strategy as competence in action – renewal or more of the same?
- * Various images of strategy – e.g. as mental processes, discovery and creation of

meaning

- * Strategic intentions, interventions and pitfalls
- * Strategy and creativity – visions/leading images, rhetoric and conceptual thinking
- * From vision to practice: constructive organisation for strategic renewal
- * Integrating perspectives: from strategic analysis to an ability to extend knowledge resources strategically

Module 3: PERSONAL AND COMPETENT LEADERSHIP

Objectives

At the end of the third session participants are to have an understanding of and practice in significant aspects of “good leadership” with respect to both individual and professional leadership. A further objective is to highlight and reflect on potentially negative aspects of leadership and how one can turn situations around, leading to positive achievements (see also Module 4).

In conjunction with this module, or at an agreed time shortly afterwards, participants will give a brief overview of their individually selected literature (approx. 700 pages). The list of relevant, individually selected references (which is in addition to the obligatory programme syllabus below, as well as any previous related courses) is to be shown/submitted to the course instructor. This can be used to highlight issues in participants’ own learning (cf. further work on synopsis and project paper etc).

Main topics

- * Overview and main concepts in an individual’s leadership
- * Between personal and professional leadership (leading others, leading oneself)
- * Different leadership traditions: from specialist experts versus generic leadership traditions to leadership in multicultural, knowledge-intensive and potentially creative environments
- * Misdirected or unproductive leadership energy (insight through fiction and participants’ own experiences)
- * Constructive leadership skills in theory and in practice (exercises and cases)
- * Integrating perspectives: personal leadership in context

Module 4: INTERACTION AND LEADERSHIP IN NETWORKS

Objectives

At the end of the fourth session participants are to have an overview of critical success factors in leadership of knowledge-based organisations. Participants will thus have focused on the need for constructive interplay with other competencies in order to get the best out of fellow workers, clients and collaborators.

A further, concrete objective will be an introduction to creative collaboration in joint problem-solving or brainstorming, using design and creative methods as components of renewal or innovation tasks. (The latter may also take place in other modules, where appropriate).

Main topics

- * Overview and main concepts in relation-oriented and network-oriented leadership
- * Why is relation-oriented and network-oriented leadership important now and what does it entail?
- * Tracing relation and network-related leadership traditions
- * Unproductive energy and processes in leadership within relations/network: examples and exercises
- * Constructive relation and network development
- * Creative strategic alliances. Case or exercise: interacting on idea development, design and interdisciplinary development teams
- * Integrating perspectives: leadership within the individual and the organisation with respect to relations and networks

Module 5: LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

Objectives

At the end of the fifth session participants are to have acquired an overview summarising what is understood by active and reflecting leadership for current and future organisations and how hidden talents and competence may be mobilised to achieve the desired results. An additional objective is to reflect on a) what participants have learned and b) how this may be used constructively in the future.

Main topics

- * Overview and main concepts of leadership in action: action, reflection, learning
- * Integrating perspectives: from action to interaction – what now?
- * Do we need more unconventional strategic leaders – how and why

Exercises: For example with respect to personal objectives

- * For inspiration: field trip/visits to new places and impulses from other organisations and fellow students – how to create collaboration and creative environments
- * Reflection: What have we learned? What do we need to do additional work on? How to continue?
- * Presentations of individual or group plans for implementation and further learning

after the course