



APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR 2010/2011

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 qualifying for admission to the MSc Programme

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

It's learning/homepage

Learning process and workload

The course is a combination of lectures, group discussions, seminars/minor workshops. A course of 6 ECTS credits corresponds to a workload of 160-180 hours.

Please note that it is the student's own responsibility to obtain any information provided in class that is not included on the course homepage/It's learning or text book.

Examination

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

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. 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.

This is a course with continuous assessment (several exam elements) and one final exam code. Each exam element will be graded using points on a scale (e.g. 0-100). The elements will be weighted together according to the information in the course description in order to calculate the final letter grade for the course. You will find detailed information about the point system and the cut off points with reference to the letter grades on the course site in It's learning.

Examination 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

It is only possible to retake an examination when the course is next taught. The assessment in some courses is based on more than one exam code. Where this is the case, you may retake only the assessed components of one of these exam codes. Where this is not the case, all of the assessed components of the course must be retaken. All retaken examinations will incur an additional 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.