



APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR 2010/2011

ORG 9853 Organization Theory

Programme

Bachelor in Business Law (3. year)

Responsible for the course

Department

Department of Leadership and Organizational Behaviour

Term

According to study plan

ECTS Credits

6

Language of instruction

Norwegian

Introduction

The objective of the course is to give students a basic understanding of organizational behaviour. The students will be guided through the most important topics within organizational theory, where classical approaches and more recent perspectives are presented side by side in order to illustrate managerial thinking and behaviour in organizations. The course consists of three main parts. The first part covers organizational goals and effectiveness, structure, culture, power and organizational environment. The second part deals with processes in organizations, while the third part is dedicated to the question of how to study organizations. After having completed the course, the students should have learned the most central concepts and contributions within organizational theory, along with skills in applying theory to "real life situations". Students should also get acquainted to BIs electronic library, as a prerequisite to further academically writing.

Objective

After completion, the students should:

- Have gained a basic understanding of important contributions and perspectives in organizational theory
- Be able to apply such contributions and perspectives in order to better understand real world challenges and dilemmas in organizations
- Be able to find and understand relevant research articles

Prerequisites

No particular prerequisites are required. However, the course content should be viewed in relation to the course ORG 9601. An internet-based test containing subject matter from ORG 9601 is offered at the start of the semester.

Compulsory reading

Books:

Jacobsen, Dag Ingvar og Jan Thorsvik. 2007. Arbeidsbok og casesamling til Hvordan organisasjoner fungerer. 3. utg. Bergen : Fagbokforlaget. 156 sider

Jacobsen, Dag Ingvar og Jan Thorsvik. 2007. Hvordan organisasjoner fungerer. 3. utg. Bergen : Fagbokforlaget. 466 sider

Articles:

Das, T.K. and B.-S. Teng. 1999. Cognitive biases and strategic decision processes: An integrative perspective. *Journal of Management Studies*. 36(6). p.757-778

Ferraro, F., J. Pfeffer, & R.I. Sutton. 2005. Economic language and assumptions: How theories can become self-fulfilling. *Academy of Management Review*. 30 (1). p. 8-24

Piderit, S. K. 2000. "Rethinking resistance and recognizing ambivalence: A multidimensional view of attitudes toward an organizational change.". *Academy of Management Review*. 25(4): 783-794

Seibert, S. E., Silver, S. R., and Randolph, W. A. 2004. "Taking empowerment to the next level: A multiple-level model of empowerment, performance, and satisfaction.". *Academy of Management Journal*. 47(3):332-349

Other:

Vitenskapelige artikler (lastes selv ned av kursdeltakerne gjennom BI-høyskolenes elektroniske oppkobling mot BIs biblioteker):

Recommended reading**Other:**

Ingen

Course outline

- Goals and effectiveness
- Organizational structure
- Individual, social and cultural relationships
- Power and conflict
- Organizations and their environment
- Motivation
- Communication
- Decision making
- Learning
- Change
- Leadership
- Studying organizations

Computer-based tools

The internet based platforms Blackboard and apollon are in use throughout of the course, at the lecturer's didactic judgements. All students are responsible for acquiring access to the internet, in order to test their level of knowledge as a part of the course.

Course structure

Full-time and part-time

The course outline is 42 hours of lectures, of which 6 hours are dedicated to lecture assisted work with cases. Steady progression is regarded as a necessity within the course, when wanting to achieve high-level results. The establishment of colloquia are highly recommendable.

Mandatory case

At the start of the semester, a case assignment will be handed out. The case assignment is to be prepared individually or in groups of two or three students. The paper should be maximum 5 pages and must be handed in to the lecturer, who sets the hand in date. The lecturer registers the papers and organizes feedback on the cases. Experiences gained in working with cases during the semester should prove to be most relevant when students are working with the final case presented as home exam assignment at the end of the semester.

Multiple-choice tests

Multiple-choice tests containing questions from the compulsory literature are available for the course contenders by accessing designated web pages. Students should as a helpful learning activity pass all tests during the semester. There are no limitations regarding the number of times the students can access or try out for the tests. All aids are allowed in the process of working with the web-based tests.

The course is also provided as Distance Learning.

Examination

A take home exam, to be completed in 72 hours, concludes the course. The take home exam can be prepared individually or in groups of two or three students.

Examination code(s)

ORG 98532 – take home exam, which accounts for 100% of the grade in ORG 9853, 6 credits.

Examination support materials

All aids + calculator TEXAS INSTRUMENTS BA II Plus™ are permitted.

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

A makeup exam is held in every term.

Additional information

Due to changes in our Bachelor Programmes from autumn 2009, there also will be changes in every single course. This course will be lectured for the last time fall 2010. Re-sit exam will be offered every term even spring 2013.