



APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR 2013/2014

MBA 2381 Thesis

Programme

Master of Business Administration - China

Responsible for the course

Erling S Andersen

Department

Department of Leadership and Organizational Behaviour

Term

According to study plan

ECTS Credits

45

Language of instruction

English

Introduction

The students shall, as part of the exam's requirement, write a thesis. The students are allowed to work on the thesis in groups of a maximum of three students. A student is allowed to write the thesis by him/herself, but experience indicates that group work creates better results and students are encouraged to create intercultural working groups.

The topic should be an analysis and evaluation of a real life challenge facing a company. The students should choose the topic from their own company or a company that they have close connection to. The students should be able to observe and discuss the topic with people dealing with the challenge in the company. Many of the issues taught should be discussed in the thesis, and the students should demonstrate their ability to apply the theory they have studied to a real situation.

Learning outcome

The objective is two-fold. The students should learn how to conduct a research investigation and write a scientific paper. They shall also get a better knowledge of how strategic issues and problem solving is conducted in a Chinese company or a multi-national company doing business in China.

Prerequisites

Bachelor degree or equivalent, 4 years work experience, managerial experience and good written and oral knowledge of the English language. Please confirm our Student regulations.

Compulsory reading

Recommended reading

Course outline

Teaching

There will be a one-day lecture on thesis work and methodology at an early stage of the program. The lecture will cover the following topics:

- How to write a thesis
- Phases in thesis work
- Critical evaluation of published article
- Introduction and problem formulation
- Theory, research model, and hypotheses
- Methods considerations and documentation
- Analysis
- Discussion, implications for practice and theory

Supervision

Supervision will be given to the students, by Norwegian professors. The Norwegian professors will supervise in person as well as electronically.

Thesis work schedule

A topic hand-in is requested at an early stage (e.g. module 5), and the thesis will be presented orally at late in the program (e.g. in connection with the last or one of the last modules).

Deadline for handing in the thesis will be two months after the last module.

Student presentation

The students have to present their theses verbally to the graders and fellow students after hand-in.

Computer-based tools

None

Learning process and workload

The thesis work is continuous throughout the whole program

Examination

The students are evaluated through an individual thesis and an oral presentation of the thesis.

Examination code(s)

MBA 23811 – Thesis; accounts for 60% to pass the program MBA 2381; 45 credits

MBA 23812 – Oral presentation; accounts for 40% to pass the program MBA 2381; 45 credits

Both evaluations must be passed in order to get credit for the course MBA 2381.

The course is part of a full MBA and all evaluations must be passed in order to obtain a certificate for the degree.

Examination support materials

Re-sit examination

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 be re-evaluated when a student wants to retake an exam. Retake examinations entail an extra examination fee.

Additional information

For administrative reasons the students are registered at the program code MBA 2382 in the first semester. In the second semester they are registered at the program code MBA 2383 .