



APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR 2014/2015

## DRE 3007 Introduction to Innovation

### Programme

Innovation and Entrepreneurship

### Responsible for the course

Heidi Wiig Aslesen, Bjørn Terje Asheim

### Department

Department of Innovation and Economic Organisation

### Term

According to study plan

### ECTS Credits

7,5

### Language of instruction

English

### Introduction

This course presents an overview of innovation studies. It is divided into a system approach, i.e. the systemic nature of innovation and economic growth, and a corporate and organizational approach, focusing in particular on strategic issues. Both approaches deal with how processes of innovation occur. Traditionally, the system approach has dealt primarily with the allocation of resources to innovation and its macroeconomic effects (e.g. the relation between innovation on the one hand and a country's competitiveness and economic growth on the other), while the innovation process at the micro level (e.g. in firms) has been treated more or less as a 'black box'. Obviously, a lot of what happens has to do with learning occurring in organized settings (e.g. project groups, teams, firms and networks), the working of which is studied within disciplines such as sociology, organizational science, management and business studies. Innovation is a complex and dynamic organizational process—with repeating cycles of divergent and convergent activities—that both depends on and spurs of organizational learning and adaptation. Taking a strategic perspective on these processes is important to grasp opportunities and hindrances, as well as identifying the role of intentional action.

### Learning outcome

The course will give the participants theoretical knowledge of major approaches to innovation studies, emphasising the collective research effort of this field over the last quarter of a century. The course places particular emphasis on how those research results can be translated into strategic action, be it from a corporate or societal perspective. Through a combination of lectures, seminars and paper writing exercises the students will be trained to position their work and to frame their research in relation to various schools of thought within innovation studies broadly defined.

### Prerequisites

Admission to a PhD Programme is a general requirement for participation in PhD courses at BI Norwegian Business School.

External candidates are kindly asked to attach confirmation of admission to a PhD programme when signing up for a course with the doctoral administration. Candidates can be allowed to sit in on courses by approval of the course leader. Sitting in on courses does not permit registration for courses, handing in exams or gaining credits for the course. Course certificates or conformation letters will not be issued for sitting in on courses.

### Compulsory reading

#### Collection of articles:

A collection of scientific articles

#### 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

Innovation studies  
Innovation management  
Innovation strategy  
National innovation systems  
Innovation policy

**Computer-based tools**

Not applicable

**Learning process and workload**

**Examination**

A paper of 15 to 25 pages .

The course grade (pass/fail) is based solely on the term paper.  
The term paper should be original work, and be written specifically for this course.

**Examination code(s)**

DRE 30071 paper accounts for 100% of the grade.

**Examination support materials**

Not applicable.

**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.

**Additional information**

Academic honesty and trust are important to all of us as individuals, and represent values that are encouraged and promoted by the honour code system. This is a most significant university tradition. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the ideals of the honour code system, to which the faculty are also deeply committed.

Any violation of the honour 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 honour code, please ask.