



APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR 2015/2016

GRA 6342 International Business Environment

Programme

Master of Science in Business, Specialization Course

Responsible for the course

Heidi Wiig Aslesen

Department

Department of Innovation and Economic Organisation

Term

According to study plan

ECTS Credits

6

Language of instruction

English

Introduction

Learning outcome

The purpose of this course is to give a balanced and empirical perspective on the topic of globalization focusing on the longer-term underlying processes of global economic change in which current events can be better understood. One aim of the course is to demonstrate the fundamentally relational nature of globalization processes by focusing explicitly on global production networks (GPN) and global innovation networks (GIN) and to emphasize the power-laden dynamics of the interactions between companies, political systems, consumers, labour and civil society organizations – and their geography – highlighting both the institutional and spatial context of globalization. Another aim is to give insights into new empirical developments and to incorporate new ideas on the shaping and reshaping of production, distribution and consumption in the global economy. The third aim is to provide arguments about the impacts of globalization processes on people, places and the environment and the more ethical aspects of globalization processes. In general this course will provide students with dynamic perspectives on how the global economy works and what its effects are. There will be a special focus on emerging economies, especially China.

Prerequisites

All courses in the Masters programme will assume that students have fulfilled the admission requirements for the programme. In addition, courses in second, third and/or fourth semester can have specific prerequisites and will assume that students have followed normal study progression. For double degree and exchange students, please note that equivalent courses are accepted.

Compulsory reading

Books:

Dicken, Peter. 2015. Global shift : mapping the changing contours of the world economy. 7th ed. Sage. 550

Other:

SELECTED ARTICLES

Recommended reading

Course outline

The course covers 4 main topics; 1) The shifting contours of the global economy 2) How the actors, institutions and processes that make the global economy interact to produce global production networks 3) Case studies of different sectors to illustrate ways in which these processes actually operate 4) Winning and losing in the global economy and how nations and regions are able to capture value in global networks.

During the course there will be an intensive one-week study trip to Shanghai with lectures at Fudan University and company visits in the area. Students must be aware that cost for and connected with the trip to China is not covered by BI Norwegian Business School and students are expected to cover this cost themselves.

Computer-based tools

Not applicable

Learning process and workload

A course of 6 ECTS credits corresponds to a workload of 160-180 hours.
Lectures, cases, group work and discussions.

A central learning element of the course is the term paper project which will be conducted in small groups. The term paper should preferably be conducted by groups of three students, but we also allow individual assignments.

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

The course grade will be based on the following activities and weights:

- 1) 30% - Class participation (participation, presentations, contributions to class discussions)
- 2) 70% - Term paper (individually or in groups of up to three students)

Form of assessment	Weight	Group size
Class participation	30%	
Term paper	70%	Optional (individual or group of max 3 students)

Specific information regarding student assessment will be provided in class. This information may be relevant to requirements for term papers or other hand-ins, and/or where class participation can be one of several components of the overall assessment. This is a course with continuous assessment (several exam components) and one final exam code. Each exam component is graded using points on a scale from 0-100. The final grade for the course is based on the aggregated mark of the course components. Each component is weighted as detailed in the course description. Students who fail to participate in one/some/all exam components will get a lower grade or may fail the course. You will find detailed information about the points system and the mapping scale in the student portal @bi.

Examination code(s)

GRA 63421 continuous assessment accounts for 100 % of the final grade in the course GRA 6342.

Examination support materials

Permitted examination support materials for written examinations are detailed under examination information in the student portal @bi. The section on support materials and the use of calculators and dictionaries should be paid special attention to.

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. All retaken examinations will incur an additional fee. Please note that you need to retake the latest version of the course with updated course literature and assessment. Please make sure that you have familiarised yourself with the latest course description.

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.