INFN40, Informatics: Strategic Management and IS, 7.5 credits

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Informatics on 2013-09-20 and was last revised on 2016-06-03. The revised syllabus applies from 2016-08-29, autumn semester 2016.

General Information

The course can be taken as part of the MSc Programme in Information Systems, or as a separate course.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Informatics
Information Systems

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
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Learning outcomes

The overall aim of the course is for the students to achieve greater understanding of the techno-logical and organisational factors that influence the strategic significance of information systems for organisations.

Knowledge and understanding

For a pass on the course, students shall demonstrate knowledge and understanding of

• key elements of different schools of strategy theory

This is a translation of the course syllabus approved in Swedish
• different strategy theory viewpoints
• the underlying arguments for a certain strategy theory viewpoint
• the relation of business strategies to organizations and their activities.

Competence and skills
For a pass on the course, students shall demonstrate competence and skills to

• participate in group work where strategic problems in different company case studies are analysed
• give examples of situations in industry where the theories discussed in the course can be applied
• analyse an enterprise in order to explore and select an appropriate information system for a specific type of activity and its future development
• critically analyse the use of different information systems in an organisational context.

Judgement and approach
For a pass on the course, students shall demonstrate the ability to

• describe, explain and evaluate different strategy theories from a sustainability perspective on society
• evaluate the pros and cons of different information systems as support for a specified enterprise
• motivate an appropriate choice of business strategy for the development of a specified organisation.

Course content
The course addresses central ideas within the area of strategic management and information systems. The knowledge acquired during the course is general and can be applied in practice without being tied to any specific supplier of information systems or a specific company within a particular branch.

The following topics will be covered:

• enterprises and their organization
• theories of strategic management
• activity and business models
• strategy-related information systems
• some trends in the development of information systems.

Course design
The teaching consists of lectures, guest lectures, seminars, group case studies, workshops and supervision.

The course includes compulsory components, which are stated in the schedule.

Assessment

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The assessment is based on written exam, case reports and assignments. Re-examinations are offered in close conjunction with the first examination.

Cheating such as plagiarism, fabrication and falsification is considered a serious offence in higher education (see Chapter 8 of the Higher Education Ordinance). The disciplinary measures that may be taken as a result of such offences are caution or suspension for a limited period of time from the University.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A.

**Grade** (Definition) Points or percentage out of maximum points. Characteristic.

**A** (Excellent) 85-100. A distinguished result that is excellent with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

**B** (Very good) 75-84. A very good result with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

**C** (Good) 65-74. The result is of a good standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought and lives up to expectations.

**D** (Satisfactory) 55-64. The result is of a satisfactory standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

**E** (Sufficient) 50-54. The result satisfies the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought, but not more.

**F** (Fail) 0-49. The result does not meet the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

To pass the course, the students must have been awarded the grade of E or higher.

Grading rules and definitions

Grades are awarded according to a graded scale from A (highest) to F (lowest), with E as the minimum passing grade.

When the exam/assignment is not graded, the grades G (Pass) or F (Fail) will be applied.

**Course grades**

When calculating course grades, the graded components will be weighted according to the following formula:

The number of credits for the exam is multiplied with the exam score. The total value is then divided by the total number of credits for the exams/assignments included. The resulting average is then rounded off to the nearest whole number. The number indicates the relevant course grade in accordance with the grading definitions above.

For exams/assignments which are graded and scored, the grades A to F will be used in accordance with the grading definitions above. The exam score will be used directly in the calculation.

For exams/assignments which are graded but not scored, the grades A to F will be used and converted as follows: A = 92, B = 80, C = 70, D = 60, E = 52.

Exams/assignments which are not graded but awarded with G (Pass) or F (Fail) will not be included in the calculation of the course grade.
Entry requirements

General and completed courses: "Informatics: Introduction to Information Systems, 1-30 cr", "Informatics: Level 2, 31-60 cr" and "Informatics: Bachelor Degree Project, 15 cr" and further 15 credits informatics/information systems at Bachelor level or the equivalent. English 6/English Course B.
An exception for the general entry requirement in Swedish will be granted when the course is given in English.

Further information

The Director of the MSc Programme in Information Systems has on 1 June 2011 decided that this course may be included in the programme.
The course may not be credited towards a degree together with INFX21 or equivalent courses.
It is compulsory to attend the introduction meeting, where a roll call will be taken. Absence without notification means that the admitted student will lose his/her seat on the course.
For transitional provisions with regard to previous courses, please contact the study advisor for an individual assessment.
If the course is discontinued, there may be limited opportunities for re-examination. Please contact the study advisor for information.

Amendments
2012-05-03: General editorial changes.
2013-04-17: Changed names on exams.
2013-05-08: General editorial changes.
2016-04-01: Updated the entry requirements. Added that attendance on the introduction meeting is compulsory. New set of exams from Autumn term 2016.
Subcourses in INFN40, Informatics: Strategic Management and IS

Applies from H16

1601  Individual Assignments, 1,0 hp
      Grading scale: Fail, Pass
      Individual Assignments.
1602  Case papers, 3,0 hp
      Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
      Group Assignments.
1603  Written Exam, 3,5 hp
      Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
      Individual Home Exam.

Applies from H13

1111  Assignments, Individual, 1,0 hp
      Grading scale: Fail, Pass
1112  Assignments, Group, 4,0 hp
      Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
1113  Written Exam, 2,5 hp
      Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A

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