



School of Economics and Management

ENTA80, Entrepreneurship: Social Innovation - a Strategy for Sustainability, 7.5 credits

Entreprenörskap: Social innovation - en strategi för hållbarhet, 7,5 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by The Board of the Department of Business Administration on 2014-11-18 and was last revised on 2021-03-30 by Academic Director of Studies at Department of Business Administration. The revised syllabus applied from 2021-03-30, autumn semester 2021.

General Information

The course is an elective course at the undergraduate level open for students from other faculties than from the School of Economics and Management.

The course can be studied in different education programs as an independent subject course.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Entrepreneurship

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

A passing grade on the course will be awarded to students who:

Knowledge and understanding

- Can describe and use key concepts in the field of social entrepreneurship and innovation.
- Can name and explain the main principles of core theories and frameworks in the field of social entrepreneurship and innovation.

- Understand and analyse the process of social innovation.

Competence and skills

- Apply methods to explore and evaluate social enterprises and innovations.
- Practice and manage teamwork in a social entrepreneurial project.
- Demonstrate an ability to identify, analyse and find solutions in problems relating to social entrepreneurship independently and with others.
- Present, discuss and argue their issues, problems and conclusions of group assignment/projects in both written and oral form.

Judgement and approach

- Apply theoretical knowledge on social entrepreneurship and make critical judgments in relation to real social innovation projects.
- Evaluate and apply decision criteria for new social enterprises and innovations in uncertain environment.
- Critically assess routes of success and failure in social enterprise projects.
- Demonstrate ability to make judgments with respect to scientific, social and ethical aspects.

Course content

Technical innovations alone have proven to be insufficient to address the pressing social issues.

For this reason, social entrepreneurship gained momentum as a way to transition towards more sustainable solutions.

These endeavours have in common their organisation towards social change and the creation of social over economic value.

As they provide new solutions (products, services, models, markets, processes etc.) that simultaneously meet a social need (more efficiently and effectively than existing solutions) and lead to new or improved capabilities, assets and/or relationships, they have also been categorised as social innovations. Understanding sustainability broadly, we will explore in this course how social entrepreneurship and innovation are a particular form of organising towards social transformation.

Based on academic research on social entrepreneurship and social innovation, the objective of the course is to provide students with knowledge of how to explore and evaluate social entrepreneurship and innovations in theory and practice. We will rely on different theories and intellectual tools from social sciences to both understand the phenomenon of social entrepreneurship and innovation and apply them to the design of social entrepreneurial ventures in groups.

On the theoretical part of the course, we will introduce into the academic field of social entrepreneurship and important key concepts in social innovations. In parallel to this, students will work in groups in the development of their own social enterprise.

Students will first identify a problem they want to address, understand it, assess the opportunity, acknowledge the theory of change, consider the venture's business model, identify funding sources for the initiative and develop a pitch to engage stakeholders. Here they will practice group assignment/project and how it affects the creation of social enterprises and development of social innovations.

Course design

The course combines a variety of methods, ranging from traditional lectures, case studies, interaction-based pedagogy, reading groups, student debates, group work, and venture co-creation teamwork.

Students are expected to participate actively in class. Assigned readings, in the form of research articles, are an integral part of the teaching methods.

Participation in the assigned teamwork is mandatory.

Assessment

Examination in this course is a two-step process:

Mid-course written exam: In a short written essay, students will have to identify a social issue, and explain how SE can provide an innovative solution

Final written take-home assignment: students in groups will be asked to write a report on their social enterprise.

The written assignment should include the problem to be addressed, how it is to be addressed, how it creates social innovation, as well as potential (or already established) collaborations. This exam needs to engage the literature discussed throughout the course and explain how students' decisions regarding their social enterprise relate to the literature.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

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.

At the School of Economics and Management grades are awarded in accordance with a criterion-based grading scale A-U (A-F). Students have to receive a grade of E or higher in order to pass a course.

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

Some occasional examination elements of the course may have the grading scale pass (D) / fail U(F).

Plagiarism is considered to be a very serious academic offence. The University will take disciplinary actions against any kind of attempted malpractice in examinations and assessments. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other improper practices in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University for a specific period of time.

Entry requirements

The course is an independent course, open to students from other faculties with at least 30 ECTS.

Further information

The course ENTA80 can not be combined with the course SASE21 in a degree.

In case of closure of the course: Within three semesters after the course closure there will be offered three additional occasions for examination of respective examination part of the course, for students with no successful result. Note that after this you can get a certificate only regarding completed examination parts.

Discontinuation of the course: If the course is discontinued, students who have not yet passed the course will be offered three further examination opportunities on each of the assessed components within three semesters of the last semester the course was offered. Subsequently, it is only possible to receive certificates for passed components.

Subcourses in ENTA80, Entrepreneurship: Social Innovation - a Strategy for Sustainability

Applies from H21

- 2101 Individual written exam, 2,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 2102 Written take-home assignment, 5,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A

Applies from H15

- 1501 Oral Exam, 4,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1502 Project, 3,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass