

School of Economics and Management

FEKE11, Seeing and Understanding Complexity and Uncertainty, 2.5 credits Att se och förstå komplexitet och osäkerhet, 2,5 högskolepoäng First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Business Administration on 2022-09-13 to be valid from 2022-09-14, spring semester 2023.

General Information

The course is aimed at persons with experience of academic study and relevant work experience. The course has a clear practical approach, and the studies benefit from opportunities for immediate use of the knowledge conveyed in the course.

Language of instruction: English

The course is offered in English, students must therefore be able to communicate in English both orally and in writing.

Main field of studies

Business Administration

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements GXX, First cycle, in-depth level of the course cannot be classified

Learning outcomes

The overall aim of the course is to create insight and familiarity with language, concepts, models, and tools to describe and analyze complex phenomena with relevance for companies and other types of organizations. The goal is also to help the students, concretely, to see the complexity in their surroundings and the challenges this provides, by using new perspectives and tools.

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

Knowledge and understanding

- Understand the foundations of basic systems theory models and concepts
- Understand basic ontological differences between linear and non-linear processes
- Understand commonly used concepts and tools that aim to facilitate the

understanding of complex phenomena with implications for companies and other types of organizations

Competence and skills

- Apply the knowledge and understanding described above in practice
- Convey insights from the application of the knowledge and understanding described above evaluation ability and approach

Judgement and approach

- Evaluate the usefulness and relevance of the knowledge and understanding described above in practice
- Critically and constructively examine the material conveyed in the course
- Identify individual need for further development regarding the overall objectives of the course

Course content

Companies and organizations find themselves in increasingly more complex and difficult-to-interpret situations that are often described as changing, unpredictable and ambiguous. This has consequences for how one describes and analyzes the situation and the systems one is affected by and acts in relation to. The course conveys and practices the use of language, concepts, models, and tools to describe and analyze complex phenomena with relevance for companies and other types of organizations.

The course has the following focus areas:

- Basic systems theory models and concepts
- Basic ontological differences between linear and non-linear processes
- Conceptual apparatus and tools aimed at facilitating the understanding of complex phenomena with bearing on companies and other types of organizations

Course design

The teaching is online-based and consists of lectures, lessons, group exercises and work with reports of various kinds. The course conveys a selection of basic concepts, theories, and models. The course also contains parts with practical applications, preferably with a focus on the students' own experiences and relevant challenges.

Assessment

The course is examined through:

- 1. An individual report with a focus on practical application (2 credits) P/F
- 2. An individual quiz with a focus on theoretical understanding (0.5 credits) P/F

For the possibility of a higher grade on the course, in addition to the above, the following is required:

3. An individual report and an associated seminar (0 credits) (A-E/F). This part of the examination is optional.

Grades

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

To pass the course - grade E - and obtain registered course points, the following is required:

- 1. Approved result on the individual report with focus on practical application
- 2. Passed result on the individual quiz focusing on theoretical understanding.

To have the possibility of receiving a higher grade than E the following is required:

3. An individual report with an associated seminar. This examination task is optional.

Entry requirements

120 credits of university studies or equivalent. English B.

Further information

It is recommended that applicants have at least two years of work experience.

Limitations in relation to another course in relation to a certain degree: The course FEKE11 See and understand complexity and uncertainty overlaps to some extent with the course FEKL25. One of these courses can be included in the same degree.