SOCN07, Sociology: Organization Theory and the Public Sector, 15 credits

Sociologi: Organisationsteori och den offentliga sektorn, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Sociology on 2014-03-13 to be valid from 2014-09-01, autumn semester 2014.

General Information

This course is offered as a second cycle single subject course in sociology. The course is also offered within the Master of Science Program in Sociology.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies	Depth of study relative to the degree requirements
Sociology	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall be able to:

• Identify the leadership and management demands across sectors, in general, and in public and non-profit sectors, in particular, including their similarities and differences, as well as unique intergovernmental and inter-organizational challenges.

• Describe theories about: strategy, structure, network, culture, leadership, groups, communication, power, decisions, motivation and learning.

• Analyze and compare theories, their strengths and weaknesses with regard to obtaining an understanding of concrete organizations and organizational phenomena.

• Analyze the relevance of the theories, their strengths and weaknesses from the point of view of practical action and management of tasks and problems in organizations.

• Develop knowledge of the important components or dimension of organization, leadership and management.

• Develop knowledge of a sense of how one leads and organizes in leading change, influencing organizational culture, motivating people, designing organizations, leading strategic decisions, and other major challenges that organizational leaders face.

• Select, justify and apply relevant theory in analysis of organizational issues or themes described in a concrete case; and present analysis and proposed solution in a written essay in a grammatically correct, clear and coherent way.

• Be aware and appreciate the challenges that face the management of public and non-profit organizations.

• Demonstrate core skills of memo writing, oral presentation, analytic thinking and team/group-based collaborative and creative problem solving.

Course content

The course is divided into three sections: (1) an introduction to public organizations; (2) an examination of the key dimensions or organizing and managing; and (3) the application of strategies for managing and improving public and non-profit organizations.

Course design

Woven throughout the course is a case-based approach to learning that seeks to bring organizational theory into contemporary practice. The course is based on a combination of lectures and seminars, involving both teachers and students. The lectures have an interdisciplinary focus and students are encouraged to search, analyze and present literature themselves. Students will be paired with another student to engage in two team-based projects. The course concludes with a series of seminars in which the results of group projects (6 class groups) are presented, discussed and examined. Group projects are designed around the "organizational universe" approach where half of the groups are responsible for selecting a public organization and the remaining groups a non-profit organization.

Assessment

Assessments is based on:

• Active participation in seminars

• Oral presentations in two team-based projects and in group projects

• Written examination in the form of papers and critical reflections on the course literature.

Re-examination will be offered after the end of the course. If necessary, a second re-examination will be arranged at a later date.

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.
The student´s performance is assesed with reference to the learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of E the student must show **acceptable** results. For the grade of D the student must show **good** results. For the grade of B the student must show **very good** results. For the grade of A the student must show **excellent** results. For the grade of Fail the student must have shown **unacceptable** results.

Entry requirements

To be eligible the student must have at least 150 credits including a Bachelor´s thesis in one discipline in Social Sciences, or another corresponding subject.

A high level of proficiency in the English language is necessary. English language proficiency demonstrated in one of the following ways: IELTS score (Academic) of 6.0 or more (with none of the sections scoring less than 5.0), TOEFL score of 550 or more (computer based test 213, internet based 79), Cambridge/Oxford - Advances or Proficiency level, 0 level/GCSE or having a Bachelor´s degree from a university where English is the only language of instruction, according to the latest edition of International Handbook of Universities or having received a passing grade in Engish course B (Swedish secondary school).

Subcourses in SOCN07, Sociology: Organization Theory and the Public Sector

Applies from H14

1401   Midterm, 6,0 hp
       Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
1402   Projectwork, 9,0 hp
       Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A