



GRADUATE SCHOOL

GM1305 Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship, 7.5 credits

Social Innovation och Entreprenörskap, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by School of Business, Economics and Law on 2012-09-19 and was last revised on 2017-12-05 by Department of Business Administration to be valid from 2018-01-15, spring semester of 2017.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Graduate School

Position in the educational system

The course Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship is an elective course within the Master of Science programmes in Knowledge Based Entrepreneurship at the Graduate School, School of Business, Economics and Law, University of Gothenburg.

Main field of studies

Knowledge-based Entrepreneurship

Specialization

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

Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship the participant must fulfil the entrance qualifications for the Master of Science programme in Knowledge Based Entrepreneurship. For programme specific entrance requirements, see programme syllabus.

Students from the other Master of Science programmes at the Graduate School are also eligible for the course, as well as additional students with a Bachelor's degree in social sciences or engineering.

Learning outcomes

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

- define and critically evaluate sustainability and sustainable development in the context of non-profit enterprises, public services and business, in advanced and emerging markets
- describe the principle models of the trends and drivers re-shaping the dynamics of the social economy
- identify, synthesise and classify the current research on social innovation and entrepreneurship and its relation to sustainability
- apply these models and lines of thinking to the issues facing developing countries and emerging market

The course is sustainability-focused, which means that at least one of the learning outcomes clearly shows that the course content meets at least one of the University of Gothenburg's confirmed sustainability criteria. The content also constitutes the course's main focus.

Course content

The aim of this course is to provide students with a new orientation and way of thinking to organise and lead sustainable development, namely through social innovation and entrepreneurship. Sustainability encompasses many dimensions, including the long-term maintenance of responsibility, which has environmental, economic, and social dimensions. This course focuses upon the ways in which social innovation and entrepreneurship are driving the delivery of social (including environmental) value in communities, and the way in which this (accelerating economic) relationship drives social changes, both globally and locally. The focus is thus upon the trends and drivers re-shaping the dynamics of social impact.

The course reviews the key changes that have occurred within each of these sectors: the changing role of government from direct provider to enabler; the emergence of corporate responsibility within the business sector; the emergence of social enterprises and socially responsible businesses within the third sector and the emergence of new forms of philanthropy and social investment. The course will thereby help the students to develop an awareness and critical understanding of the accelerating economic relationship between the government, business and the third (not-for-profit) sectors, in areas of social innovation and entrepreneurship.

Form of teaching

The course will be taught through a variety of teaching methods:

- Lectures will present vital parts of the required literature as a preparation for the exam and/or the group projects
- Guest lectures will not be directly related to the course literature. Guest lecturers will present his/her professional experiences in one or several relevant field(s).
- Seminars are mandatory and students are expected to be active in discussions. In this course many of the cases on which group projects are based will be presented in seminars. Students who do not attend a seminar will have to write a short essay on one or more articles related to the seminar topic in question.
- Coaching will be provided for the group projects in the form of two scheduled short sessions per group.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The teaching is based on lectures and practical exercises. Lectures aim at introducing the course participants to concepts of and guide them through the most important aspects of the literature. Group work will be assigned, so that independent study will develop the student's ability to address and answer questions related to the learning objectives. The group work will be presented and discussed in plenum.

The final grade for this course will be based on the result of the exam (exam covers 75% of course content) and the grade for the group work (group work covers 25% of course content). The four learning outcomes are covered by the exam and the group work.

If a student, who has failed the same examined component twice, wishes to change examiner before the next examination, a written application shall be sent to the department responsible for the course and shall be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

In cases where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student shall normally be guaranteed at least three examination occasions (including the ordinary examination) during a period of at least one year from the last time the course was given.

Students who have made five unsuccessful attempts to pass an examination have lost the possibility of obtaining a Master of Science Degree from Graduate School.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

For Pass on the course, Pass is required on both exam and group work which cover the four learning outcomes. For Pass with Distinction, Pass with Distinction is required on the exam (75% of the individual score) and Pass on the group work.

Course evaluation

The course will be evaluated upon completion. The results of and possible changes to the course will be shared with students who participated in the evaluation and students who are starting the course.