



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

FEK3S0 Corporate Sustainability, Bachelor Course, 15 credits

Corporate Sustainability, kandidatkurs, 15 högskolepoäng

First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Business Administration on 2019-09-11 and was last revised on 2021-05-28 to be valid from 2021-08-30, autumn semester of 2021.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Department of Business Administration

Position in the educational system

The course is offered as a freestanding course.

The course can be part of the following programmes: 1) Program in Environmental Social Science (S1SMI), 2) Programme in Business and Economics (S1EPG) and 3) Bachelor's Programme in Business and Economics (S1EKA)

Main field of studies

Business Administration

Specialization

G2F, First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

Admission to the course requires at least 105 credits, at least 45 of which must be from FEK101 Business Administration, Organization and Leadership, 7.5 credits, FEK102 Business Administration, Marketing, 7.5 credits, FEK103 Business Administration, Financial Accounting, 7.5 credits, FEK104 Business Administration, Management Accounting, 7.5 credits, FEK201 Business Administration, Strategic Marketing Management, 7.5 credits, FEK202 Business Administration, Strategy, 7.5 credits, FEK203 Business Administration, Economic and Financial Management, 7.5 credits, FEK204 Business Administration and Operations Management, 7.5 credits, or from FEG100 Business Administration 1, 30 credits and FEG200 Business Administration 2,

30 credits or equivalent.

Learning outcomes

The overall aim of the course is that the students should develop their basic knowledge of business administration by analyzing how sustainability is integrated into corporate activities.

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

1. Explain theoretical and empirical concepts, frameworks and results related to Corporate Sustainability.
2. Apply and communicate their knowledge on corporate sustainability in relation to available data and cases.
3. Critically review the relevant literature of, as well as formulate a research question related to a topic with clear reference to corporate sustainability.

The qualitative targets for a Degree of Bachelor relate to the intended learning outcomes as follows:

Qualitative targets	Learning outcomes
<i>Knowledge and understanding</i>	1
<i>Competence and skills</i>	2
<i>Judgement and approach</i>	3

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 course consist of four parts. The first part, titled "Sustainable strategies and assets", deals with the integration of sustainability into the firm's long range planning and builds on previous courses on strategy and investment and finance. Topics include the economic arguments for corporate sustainability, strategizing, and asset valuation. The second part, "Sustainable operations", deals with the incorporation of sustainability into the command and control functions of the firm, and builds on earlier courses on operations management and management accounting. Themes covered include supply

chain management, procurement, and environmental cost management. The third part, “Sustainable reporting and marketing” focuses stakeholder communication and builds on earlier courses on financial reporting and marketing. Important areas, in this part, are sustainability reporting, consumer relations, and certifications. In the last part, “Research in corporate sustainability”, the students choose a specialized topic of corporate sustainability of their own interest. They then review related academic literature. Based on that review they formulate a research question.

Form of teaching

Lectures, case works, and seminars.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

Learning outcome 1 is assessed through a written exam (part 1-3).

Learning outcome 2 is assessed through group case assignments (part 1-3).

Learning outcome 3 is assessed through the completion and presentation of a research proposal in groups (part 4).

A failed case study can be completed to a pass grade within a prescribed time. The case studies are compulsory.

Failure to attend mandatory seminars/presentations can be substituted with alternative assignments within a prescribed time.

A student who has taken two exams in a course or part of a course without obtaining a pass grade is entitled to the nomination of another examiner. The student needs to contact the department for a new examiner, preferably in writing, and this should be approved by the department unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6 Section 22 of the Higher Education Ordinance).

If a student has received a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg for special educational support, where it is compatible with the learning outcomes of the course and provided that no unreasonable resources are required, the examiner may decide to allow the student to sit an adjusted exam or alternative form of assessment.

In the event that a course has ceased or undergone major changes, students are to be guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the ordinary examination session) over a period of at least one year, but no more than two years, after the course has ceased/been changed. The same applies to placements and professional placements (VFU), although this is restricted to just one additional examination session.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Excellent (A), Very good (B), Good (C), Satisfactory (D), Sufficient (E) and Fail (F).

To pass the course, a student must receive a passing grade on all intended learning outcomes. This means Pass (G) on the written exam and Pass (G) on each case study. The compulsory elements of the course must also be completed. All points are added together and translated to grade A-F for the course.

Grade (Definition) Characteristic:

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

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

C (Good) 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) The result is of a satisfactory standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

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

F (Fail) 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 UG (Fail/Pass).

Course evaluation

The course coordinator and student representatives will discuss how the course contributes to the learning process on an ongoing basis during the course. At the end of the course each participant will be asked to fill in a written evaluation formula. Upon completion of the course the Head of undergraduate education, together with student representatives, makes a summative course evaluation.

