



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

FEK3S5 Corporate Sustainability, Bachelor Thesis, 15 credits

Corporate Sustainability, kandidatuppsats, 15 högskolepoäng

First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Business Administration on 2019-09-11 and was last revised on 2021-10-29 to be valid from 2022-01-17, spring semester of 2022.

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) Programme in Business and Economics (S1EPG), 2) Program in Environmental Social Science (S1SMI) and 3) Bachelor's Programme in Business and Economics (S1EKA)

Main field of studies

Business Administration

Specialization

G2E, First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements, contains degree project for BA/BSc

Entry requirements

Admission to the course (in the course package along with FEK3S0 Corporate Sustainability, Bachelor Course, 15 credits) 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

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

1. Demonstrate the ability to identify, formulate and solve problems independently and to complete a thesis project within specified time frames.
2. Search for, collect and evaluate information in order to formulate a relevant research question and theoretical points of departure.
3. Argue for scientific assumptions made and methods chosen as well as identify and assess ethical aspects (if applicable) of his/her own research process.
4. Present results in writing in a scholarly manner.
5. Orally argue for the legitimacy of his/her results as well as interpret and analyse scientific results presented by others.
6. Intended learning outcomes specific to programme students (as of autumn semester 2013, programme-wide compulsory sustainability days are a part of all the School of Business, Economics and Law's programmes):

Formulate research questions related to central sustainability challenges together with persons with different educational backgrounds.

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>	2+3+4
<i>Competence and skills</i>	1+2+3+4+5+6
<i>Judgement and approach</i>	3+5+6

The course is sustainability-related, 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.

Course content

The student is to independently complete a larger scientific study in order to receive training in applying a scientific perspective, that is, in applying theories, models and concepts on empirical material.

Writing an academic paper entails independently identifying and formulating a major, complex issue and carrying out an analysis within the specified time. Work is to be related to the report's scientific basis, methods and current research issues. The work results in a written academic paper that is reported on and discussed at a seminar.

Form of teaching

Teaching comprises supervision and seminars.

Language of instruction: English and Swedish

The course is mainly given in Swedish. Lectures, seminars and supervision in English can be given.

Assessment

Intended learning outcomes 1, 2, 3 och 4 are examined via a written thesis.

Intended learning outcome 5 is examined via both the student's oral responses to the opponent's arguments and his/her contributions as opponent.

Intended learning outcome 6 is examined via written group work at the compulsory Sustainability Day: Solutions.

In order to pass the course, programme students who do not attend the day need to compensate with an alternative assignment within the prescribed time.

The assessment of student performance consists of a written thesis and participation in seminars, both as a presenter/defender of own work and as an opponent of fellow students' work. The opposition takes place between student groups. Attendance is compulsory and required at examination seminars. If the student does not attend examination seminars, the student is given a new opportunity to complete the defence/opponent task.

Each thesis group shall consist of two students.

A thesis that does not meet the requirements for a passing grade (A-E) can either qualify for a re-submission in order to meet the minimum requirements or be deemed of such quality that the writing of an entirely new thesis is necessary. A revised thesis must be submitted for re-assessment within two months of the end of the thesis course. The maximum grade awarded under such circumstances is Sufficient (E). Should the re-submitted thesis still not meet the minimum requirements, the student will be assigned a Fail (F). A revised thesis shall not be defended or reviewed at a seminar.

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).

Grade (Definition) Characteristic:

A (Excellent) A distinguished result that is excellent with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought. Time planning for the thesis has been completed and followed.

B (Very good) A very good result with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought. Time planning for the thesis has been completed and followed.

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. Time planning for the thesis has been completed and followed.

D (Satisfactory) The result is of a satisfactory standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought. Time planning for the thesis has been completed and followed.

E (Sufficient) The result satisfies the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought, but not more. The thesis work has followed established or adjusted timelines.

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

A course evaluation is conducted anonymously either digitally via the course website or via a written questionnaire handed out at the last scheduled meeting of the course or in connection with the exam. The results of the evaluation are to be communicated to students via the course committee and course website.

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.