



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

FH2600 Strategic procurement, 7.5 credits

Strategisk upphandling, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by School of Public Administration on 2023-12-21 to be valid from 2024-11-05, autumn semester of 2024.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: School of Public Administration

Position in the educational system

The course is given as a free-standing course.

Main field of studies

Public Administration

Specialization

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

Entry requirements

For admission to the course, a Bachelor's degree in social science education of 180 credits or equivalent is required as well as language skills equivalent to Swedish B/Swedish 3 and English A/English 5.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- explain special features of public procurement in relation to purchases in the private sector

- describe key organizational internal strategic challenges with relevance to procurement activities
- explain the potential and risks of procurement as a management tool.

Competence and skills

- argue for alternative path choices in procurement processes based on an analysis of risks
- outline different schemes for setting requirements and follow-up, in relation to empirical examples.

Judgement and approach

- discuss and problematize challenges and goal conflicts that may arise in the management of and procurement
- evaluate and discuss strategies and management methods in relation to complex values such as e.g. Sustainable Development
- critically reflect on current social phenomena in relation to approaches and theories regarding procurement.

Course content

The overall goal of the course is to give students knowledge about public procurement as a tool for governance. The goal is also to provide students with a theoretical basis for discussing and problematizing opportunities and limitations in governance through procurement and for placing strategic procurement in a broader organizational and governance context.

In the course, the increased role and importance of procurement in the public sector is put into a wider administrative policy perspective. Special features of public procurement are reviewed (for example, procurement legislation) as well as similarities with purchases in the private sector. The various phases of the procurement process are treated and how governance is (or can be) expressed in these. Strategic perspectives are highlighted. During the course, various themes are covered such as competition, organization, regulation, goal conflicts, roles and relationships, complex values, measurement, and follow-ups. The course consistently highlights differences between different sectors, markets, and products where teachers and students relate the literature to empirical examples.

Form of teaching

Teaching takes place through a combination of lectures, seminars, and guest lectures. The course is based on active participation of the course participants.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Assessment

The various themes of the course are examined continuously, orally or in writing. The course ends with a course-wide and independent written examination.

If a student who has twice received a failing grade for the same examination component wishes to change examiner ahead of the next examination session, such a request should be made to the department in writing and 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 study support for students with disabilities, the examiner may, where it is compatible with the learning outcomes of the course and provided that no unreasonable resources are required, 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.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U). For a Pass on the course, the student is required to pass all the course's exam elements. For a Pass with distinction, the student must have received the grade Pass with distinction on the final examination.

Course evaluation

The course is assessed in writing. The result and any changes in the course structure must be communicated both to the students who completed the assessment and to the students who will start the course.