



GRADUATE SCHOOL

GM1403 Management Accounting, Strategy and Control, 7.5 higher education credits

Redovisning, strategi & styrning, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by School of Business, Economics and Law on 2017-01-17 and was last revised on 2017-08-14 by Faculty Board of the School of Business, Economics and Law to be valid from 2017-08-28, autumn semester of 2017.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Graduate School

Position in the educational system

The course Management Accounting, Strategy and Control is a course within the Master of Science programmes at the Graduate School, School of Business, Economics and Law, University of Gothenburg.

Main field of studies

Accounting and Financial Management

Specialization

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

Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course Management Accounting, Strategy and Control the participant must fulfil the entrance qualifications for the Master of Science programme in Accounting and Financial Management. For programme specific entrance requirements, see programme syllabus.

Learning outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of theoretical and practical developments of management accounting and control and the link to strategy.
2. Demonstrate the ability to critically assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations, with limited information, related to management accounting, strategy and control.
3. Demonstrate communication skills, i.e. the ability to effectively communicate both orally and in writing, including team-working abilities.

Course content

This course examines management accounting and control and the link to strategy from multiple theoretical perspectives, i.e. both economic- and social-based theories. The course addresses issues such as the design and use and the different roles of management accounting and control systems for creating and sustaining value-creating strategies within firms and across organizational boundaries. Further, the course aims to develop the student's ability for critical reflection, particularly by exploring the interplay between, on the one hand, the design, use and roles of management accounting and control systems and, on the other hand, new developments and pressures from the external environment, the spread of sustainability ideas and strategies, motivational and behavioral aspects, and information systems development.

The course includes four modules:

1. Control issues, such as empowerment and behavioral aspects of control
2. Management accounting and (sustainable) value creation
3. Cost management, IT and value creation
4. Inter-organizational management control and supply chain management

Module 1 addresses the role and position of management accounting and the management accountant/controller. Ethical aspects of control, such as empowerment, trust, and other behavioral issues are discussed more closely and the relations to traditional and newer forms of management accounting and control tools and frameworks are outlined.

Module 2 deals with the way organization's management thinks and acts strategically in contemporary society and according to different stakeholder demands. Particular emphasis is put on organizations need to adapt to societal and economic changes with adequate management and risk controls but also with suitable/sustainable value creation models.

Module 3 addresses more in detail how value creation can be managed and measured (techniques and methods) and introduces different value concepts but also clarifies the relationship between cost management, pricing and strategy. Further, we demonstrate the way IT and visualization mechanisms (e.g. Business Intelligence) are part of today's management practices.

Module 4 explores contemporary value creating processes including multiple organizations. In particular, this module explores the ways in which management accounting operates in an inter-organizational context and how it supports inter-organizational value Creation.

Form of teaching

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars including individual assignments and group work but also oral presentations. Information technology supported laboratories can, when possible, strengthen the form of teaching.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The learning outcomes are assessed through an individually written exam, individual assignments and group assignment report(s) including oral presentation. Mandatory attendance at seminars is stated on the course timetable.

Assessment activity

Learning outcome 1: Individual written examination

Learning outcome 2: Individual written examination and group assignment report(s)

Learning outcome 3: Individual assignments and group assignment report(s) and oral presentation

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.

The number of examinations is limited to five.

Grades

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

To receive a pass grade (A-E) $\geq 50\%$ points is required. Pass is also required on all learning outcomes. The grade corresponds to the total score a student obtains for all

assessment activities together. The scale is tied to fixed score intervals:

A: 85%-100%;

B: 75%-84%;

C: 68%-74%;

D: 60%-67%;

E: 50%-59%;

F: <50%"

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.