



COURSE DESCRIPTOR

Master Thesis in Business Administration

Magisterarbete i företagsekonomi

15 ECTS credit points (15 högskolepoäng)

Course code: FE2409

Educational level: Advanced level

Course level: D

Field of education: Social sciences

Subject area: Business administration

Version: 2

Applies from: 2008-01-21

Approved: 2007-12-04

Replaces course descriptor approved: 1994-10-20

1 Course title and credit points

The course is titled Master Thesis in Business Administration/Magisterarbete i företagsekonomi and awards 15 credit points. One credit point (högskolepoäng) corresponds to one credit point in the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

2 Decision and approval

This course is established by The Education Committee of the School of Management 2007-12-04. The course descriptor was revised by The Education Committee of the School of Management and applies from 2008-01-21.
Dnr: MAM 2007:04
Ersätter FED006

3 Objectives

The overall objective of the course is to enhance students' capacity to engage in research and advanced investigations into issues within the field of business administration and management, and to report their findings and recommendations in an effective way.

Through the course students should gain insights in investigative work within the social sciences and advance their experience in applying management theory.

4 Content

The course comprises the following elements;

- The purpose and process of applied research
- Formulation of research questions, aims and objectives
- Forms and sources of data
- Strategies and techniques of information retrieval
- System of references
- Methods for collection of primary data
- Literature reviews
- Writing thesis proposals and investigation plans

5 Aims and learning outcomes

On completion of the course the student will:

- Define a management or businessproblem, setting out appropriate aims and research questions
- Structure a logically coherent argument and critically evaluate relevant literature
- Demonstrate a good understanding of advanced methodological approaches to management research
- Carry out literature reviews and use appropriate methods to collect primary and secondary data
- Plan a major report and express oneself clearly in writing
- Draw conclusions from evidence and make appropriate recommendations

6 Generic skills

The following generic skills are trained in the course:

- Critical thinking, analysis and synthesis
- Academic writing
- Research skills
- Presentation skills
- Improving own learning

7 Learning and teaching

The course run as a series of seminars where students critically assess and discuss eachother's work as it unfolds. The seminars are overseen by the course-director who also support the students with mini-lectures on problemformulation, methodological issues and other aspects of advanced investigative work.

Each student-team is assigned an advisor/supervisor whose role is to challenge, advice and support the students throughout their work.

At the end of the course students should present and defend their work in a open seminar. Each student-team should also conduct an oral opposition on the work of one of the other teams.

The thesis should be conducted either individually or in a team of no more than three students.

The primary language of the seminars and the

supervision is english but students may write their thesis in swedish.

8 Assessment and grading

Examination of the course

Code	Module	Credit	Grade
0805	Thesis	12hp	U/G/VG
0815	Opposition	3hp	U/G

The course will be graded Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG). The course grade equals the grade of the thesis.

On request grades according to ECTS will be given.

9 Course evaluation

The course coordinator is responsible for systematically gathering feedback from the students in course evaluations and making sure that the results of these feed back into the development of the course.

10 Prerequisites

Students are required to have completed at least 105 credit points in Business Administration of which at least 15 credit points of project work, and 15 credit points of specialization courses on the advanced level (or the equivalent).

11 Field of education and subject area

The course is part of the field of education Social sciences and is included in the subject area business administration.

12 Restrictions regarding degree

The course cannot form part of a degree with another course, the content of which completely or partly corresponds with the contents of this course.

13 Course literature and other teaching material

P. Ghauri & K Grønhaug, "Research Methods in Business Research", Financial Times/Prentice Hall 2005, ISBN 0-273-68156-7

Selected articles

