

Education plan

for

Master's Programme in Management Studies
Masterprogram i Management Studies

120.0 Higher Education
Credits
120.0 ECTS credits

Programme code: SMANO
Valid from: Autumn 2011
Date of approval: 2009-11-05
Changed: 2011-06-22
Department: Stockholm Business School

Decision

This programme syllabus was approved by the Social Sciences Faculty Board on 2009-11-05, revised 2011-06-22.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

It is a prerequisite that the student holds a bachelors degree with a major in social sciences or humanities. The student must have a knowledge of English corresponding to English B, Swedish upper secondary school, or the equivalent.

Programme structure

The programme is given by Stockholm University School of Business.

A management team as well as a head of programme is appointed by the School of Business. The head of programme chairs the management team. The main task of the management team is to coordinate courses and ensure the academic quality of the programme.

This section covers the general structure of the programme.

General information

The programme requires 120 HE credits in business administration over two years. All courses offered are on the graduate level.

The programme is based in the social sciences with a particular focus on management. The programme integrates different social science perspectives to understand modern phenomena and their impact on markets and organisations.

Some of the courses included in the programme are available to students in other programmes as well. This means that students from different programmes may take classes together.

The language of instruction is English.

Main programme structure

Semester 1

The first semester consists of three compulsory courses providing a broad knowledge of classical organisation

theory and the fields of organisation/management, markets and society. The second half of the semester presents a double weight course covering current research in organisation and management. This course specifically focuses on challenges and problems in connection with the relationships between knowledge, work and organising in contemporary society.

Semester 2

The second semester includes three compulsory courses in business administration covering management and organising in businesses and other organisations, and one compulsory course in qualitative method.

Semester 3

The third semester consists of elective courses in business administration. The courses deal with current trends and themes as regards the relationships of businesses and other organisations to markets and in society at large. It is also an option to study abroad this semester, or to take relevant courses in other subjects than business administration. From 2012 the students will have the opportunity to do a scientifically integrated work experience course comprising 30 HE credit points.

Semester 4

The programme is concluded with an independently completed master's dissertation (30 HE credits) in business administration. The semester includes an introductory teaching period covering philosophy of science and research methodology.

Elective courses and study abroad

Upon application students may substitute courses in the programme for other courses in Sweden or abroad.

Goals

The overall aim of the programme is to prepare students for qualified jobs in management in businesses and other organisations, both in Sweden and internationally, as well as for doctoral studies in business administration.

Upon completion of the programme students are expected to have achieved the following:

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate the necessary insight and understanding to be able to adequately integrate and use their knowledge of business administration in the field of management
- demonstrate advanced insight into current research and development work in the field covered by the programme
- demonstrate advanced knowledge of how to apply critically oriented research approaches to the field the programme covers
- demonstrate advanced knowledge of the conditions for management in businesses and other organisations, in particular as relates to change.

Skills and abilities

- be able to independently obtain, critically assess and integrate information in order to analyse and work out as well as implement solutions to complex problems in the field of management
- demonstrate the ability to critically, independently and creatively identify and formulate questions of importance to the field the programme covers
- be able to take part in research and development work or independently contribute to the development of advanced knowledge
- in the management field communicate – in oral written English - with various groups and clearly explain scholarly conclusions as well as the underlying knowledge and arguments
- cooperate with others in hands-on problem solving, both in national and international contexts.

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate awareness of societal and ethical aspects of importance to the field of management
- distinguish between research results, established practice and personal values in the field covered by the programme
- have insights into the possibilities and limitations of knowledge as well as the responsibility of the individual for how to use it in various contexts
- demonstrate ability to identify their need for further knowledge and take responsibility for their own knowledge development.

Courses

In this section the courses included in the programme are specified. Each course mentioned here has a separate course syllabus establishing the main content of the course, the expected learning outcomes, course

structure, examination formats and grading criteria.

Semester 1

This semester consists of three compulsory courses on the graduate level relevant to the programme specialisation. The courses included in the programme cover the following:

- Management Theory and Analysis, 7.5 HE credits

The starting point of the course is based on a selection of the established theories and ideas in management and organisation theory. Advanced analyses of real phenomena constitute a fundamental pillar of the course.

-Markets, Organizations & Networks, 7.5 HE credits

The course distinguishes between markets, organisations and networks, three fundamental systems through which individual and collective action is coordinated. This conceptual frame-work is used to analyse how changes in society impact markets, organisations and management.

-Knowledge, Work and Organization, 15 HE credits

The first part of the course presents a broad introduction to the relationship between management and knowledge in the workplace. The rest of the course covers current conceptual and empirical research as regards knowledge intensive organisations, the relationship between management and different forms of knowledge, and organisational change and how it relates to knowledge.

Semester 2

This semester consists of four compulsory courses on the graduate level within the field of the programme. The courses included in the programme this semester cover the following:

-Strategic Management, 7.5 HE credits

When national restrictions on commerce are lifted, the competitive situation in international markets changes as well. This course covers the impact of globalisation on fundamental strategic issues in businesses. These are issues relating to internal and external potentials and limitations of the business as well as to the balancing of long term and short term goals.

-Power, Change and Resistance in Organizations, 7.5 HE credits

The starting point of the course is based on a selection of the established theories and ideas in organisation theory used to analyse change, resistance and power in organisations. Literature studies are alternated with advanced analysis of real phenomena based on central theoretical constructions

-Leadership and Management in Organizations, 7.5 HE credits

Management exists on different levels in an organisation and can be studied from different theoretical perspectives. This course covers empirical studies of the work of top managers, how first line managers develop in the first stages of their career and top management from the perspective of power politics.

- Qualitative Method, 7.5 HE credits

The course focuses on qualitative methods, i.e how to perform qualitative investigations. The emphasis is on analysis of qualitative data but data collection as well as similarities and dissimilarities between qualitative and quantitative methods will also be dealt with. The students will also perform a pilot study through qualitative method.

Semester 3

The third semester consists of elective courses in business administration for a total of 30 HE credits. The electives are courses on the graduate level in business administration, alternatively in other subjects relevant to the specialisation of the programme.

The selection of second cycle courses that are available and relevant to the education a specific academic year may change. Information on which courses are offered is available in the instructions determined prior to each academic year.

The semester may be substituted by exchange-studies, provided that visa-regulations are respected. Exchange studies can not be carried out in the student's home-country or in the country where the student's undergraduate studies were awarded.

From 2012 the students will have the opportunity to do a scientifically integrated work experience course comprising 30 HE credit points.

Semester 4

The semester consists of the following course:
-Master's Dissertation in Management, 30 HE credits.

The first part of the course introduces students to the tools of social science research methods and to core concepts in the philosophy of science. Following this introductory period, students will independently work on planning and carrying out a scholarly founded empirical study. In working with the master's dissertation students should independently integrate advanced knowledge in the field of the programme and apply this knowledge by analysing and solving problems of practical relevance.

Degree

The programme leads to a Master of Science (120 HE credits) in Management.

Misc

To enter year 2 of the programme students should have completed a minimum of 52.5 HE credits from year 1. Eventual compulsory participation in the Master Class of the programme is decided and notified prior to the class.