

# Syllabus

for course at advanced level

**Strategies, Benefit and Alignment**  
**Strategier, nytta och alignment**

**7.5 Higher Education**  
**Credits**  
**7.5 ECTS credits**

<b>Course code:</b>	IB467N
<b>Valid from:</b>	Autumn 2023
<b>Date of approval:</b>	2019-04-08
<b>Changed:</b>	2023-04-20
<b>Department</b>	Department of Computer and Systems Sciences
<b>Main field:</b>	Computer and Systems Sciences
<b>Specialisation:</b>	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

## Decision

This syllabus was approved by the Head of the Department 2019-04-08 and was last revised on 2023-04-20.

## Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

University Degree with at least 180 ECTS including an independent work of at least 15 ECTS and English 6, or the equivalent. Furthermore at least 60 credits in Computer and Systems Sciences, Informatics or the equivalent.

## Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
SNAH	Strategies, Benefit and Alignment, take home exam	4
SNAI	Strategies, Benefit and Alignment, assignments	7.5
SNAU	Strategies, Benefit and Alignment, assignments	3.5

## Course content

The course covers the following parts:

- The role of IT projects in companies and organizations
- Common models for strategic work in an organization
- IT strategy and the parts that are realized via IT projects
- Selection and prioritization of projects and alignments
- Programs, portfolio management, project offices
- Set up a successful project from the management's perspective
- To achieve the effect goals and to achieve real benefit. The above mentioned will be discussed and analyzed from a traditional project management perspective and an agile approach.

## Learning outcomes

In order to pass the course, the student must:

- Know the relationship between organizational strategies and their influence on selection, prioritization, and monitoring of IT projects and how an IT strategy is created from a business strategy
- Understand why it is important and hard to select projects in an organization
- Understand different methods used to select, prioritize, and grade projects in a portfolio

- Know how a project office works and the various services and functions offered there
- Be able to secure the effect goals and understand the value of project delivery
- Be able to account for the concept of benefits, how benefit and alignment are central and important parts of an IT investment, and how they are carried out in IT projects
- Understand how business strategies influence the selection and prioritization of IT projects
- Understand different stakeholders responsibility for project deliverables and their effect in the organization
- Be able to use models for evaluation of project values and effect goals

### **Education**

The language of instruction is English. The teaching and learning activities are distance-based and take place online at 50% study pace.

### **Forms of examination**

a. The course is examined through written home exam and assignments.

All examination tasks must be performed and submitted on time according to the schedule of the current course. A missed or incomplete examination can be re-submitted at a scheduled time window. Alternatively, the student will have to follow the schedule of next instance of the course.

b. The final grading of the course is based on the following grading scale related to the learning outcomes of the course: A = Excellent, B = Very Good, C = Good, D = Satisfactory, E = Sufficient, Fx = Fail, F = Fail.

c. The grading criteria are communicated to the students at the start of the course.

d. In order to complete the whole course segment the student must obtain at least grade E in all course components/examinations.

e. In addition the following regulations also apply:

- Students who obtain grade Fx in a written examination task are allowed to complete a supplementary assignment in order to elevate the grade to E.

The examiner informs the concerned students when the results of the written examination are published. The supplementary assignment has to be submitted within a given deadline and can only be utilized to elevate the grade of the actual examination task.

- Students who obtained grade E in an examination task are not allowed to re-write the examination or resubmit the assignment in order to obtain a higher grade.

- Students who have failed the same examination task twice are allowed to have another examiner appointed, unless there are special reasons to the contrary.

### **Interim**

When a course is discontinued, or its contents are substantially altered, the following applies:

- Failed examination tasks are replaced with other similar examination tasks according to a specific plan.
- If no similar examination tasks can be provided, at least three examination opportunities per examination task should be offered during a period of at least three terms from the date of the decision. After this period, no examinations should be carried out on the course.

### **Limitations**

This course may not be included in a degree together with a course, taken in Sweden or elsewhere, of identical or partially similar content.

### **Required reading**

Information about course literature is available on the department's website - [www.dsv.su.se](http://www.dsv.su.se) - at least two months before the start of the course.