LUND UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT

Department of Business Administration

Reg. no U 2018/459

EHFE012, Theory in Business Administration, 7.5 credits

Teorikurs i företagsekonomi, 7,5 hp

Third Cycle/Forskarutbildningsnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the Department Board on 2015-05-07.

General information

The course EHFE012 is a course on Business Administration at the third cycle level. The course is compulsory for PhD students accepted to the PhD programme in Business Administration at Lund University School of Economics and Management.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies: Business Administration

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

A passing grade on the course will be awarded to students who:

- Show a good understanding of key theories in sub-field(s) other than the student's own, and how they are related to the student's own sub-field.
- Show a good understanding of the relationship between the different sub-fields of business administration.

Competence and skills

A passing grade on the course will be awarded to students who:

- Show ability to analyze and discuss how theories from other sub-fields than the student's own are related to and may enrich the student's thesis project.

Communication

A passing grade on the course will be awarded to students who:

- Show ability to communicate both orally and in writing on relationships between the different sub-fields of business administration, as well as their relevance to the student's own thesis project.

Course content and design

The department of Business Administration in Lund is divided into five sub-fields: Accounting & Finance, Entrepreneurship, Marketing, Organization, and Strategic Management. The purpose of this course is twofold: 1) to provide the students with insight into key theories and questions within each sub-field, 2) to discuss distinctions as well as possible synergies between the sub-fields.

The course is divided into two parts. The first and main part is a series of seminars held by teachers from the different sub-fields of business administration. The second part is a seminar where the students' papers are discussed.

In the first part, each teacher identifies 6–8 articles that represent key theories and questions in their sub-field (see separate literature list). The articles are not necessarily "classics" or the first ones who brought up the topic. Rather, they are selected because they represent key theories in a comprehensive way and allow for a discussion of the main issues associated with the theories. Each set of articles is discussed in a 4-hour seminar with the students, led by the teacher.

For the second part, the students will have written drafts for their course paper where they discuss the relationship between their thesis topic and one or more sub-field that is/are not their own. The drafts are discussed in a seminar, led by the course leader, with student-discussants assigned to each paper.

Assessment

The course is examined through a paper at the end of the course. Maximum word count: 3500 words.

The aim of the paper is to identify interesting fusions and cross-fertilizations between the sub-fields and the literatures on the course, and discuss how these can be used in the student's own thesis project. In the normal case, the course leader will mark the papers. However, there may be cases where the topic is too far from his/her area of expertise. In such a case, s/he may consult the teacher who is an expert in the sub-field.

Credits

Grades are Pass or Fail.

Plagiarism is considered to be a very serious academic offence. The University will take disciplinary actions against any kind of attempted malpractice in examinations and assessments. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other improper practices in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University for a specific period of time.

Entry requirements

PhD students accepted to the PhD programme in Business Administration or an adjacent subject are eligible for the course.

Course literature

See separate literature list.