Amsterdam Business Research Institute

Business in Society

Course Manual

Academic year 2018-2019
Course title  Business in Society  
Coordinator(s)  Prof. dr. F.M. Bridoux  
Lecturer(s)  Prof. dr. Arno Kourula  
Study period  October 2018 - November 2018  
ECTS  6 ECTS  
Tuition  € 600  

Course goals  Upon successful completion of the course students are able to:  
• understand and evaluate the foundations and recent advances in the literature related to business in society in the following divisions of the Academy of Management: social issues in management (SIM), organisations and the natural environment (ONE), organisation and management theory (OMT), strategic management (STR), and critical management studies (CMS);  
• explain, debate and criticize leading concepts and theories within the field of business in society;  
• relate these multidisciplinary concepts and theories to knowledge from other fields such as strategic management, organisation theory, organisational behaviour and international business;  
• creatively analyse complex international issues and problems in the field of business in society, and apply learned concepts and theories to social and environmental issues that companies face;  
• formulate, articulate and communicate well-balanced judgments verbally and in writing.  

Course Content  The course provides a broad overview of the key theories, approaches and practices related to business in society. It is organised in six sessions. The course aims to explore relevant issues to this area of academic scholarship, such as poverty and ecological issues; at the same time, the goal is to provide students with a sense of how business in society issues and topics relate to multiple academic sub-fields in managerial and organisational research, such as strategic management, organisational behaviour or general organisation theory. Weekly: Two 3-hour lectures per week. Each lecture will (a) introduce a theory or a set of related theories, (b) place it in a historical perspective, and (c) discuss recent utilization of the theory or set of theories in business studies.
Form of tuition
Weekly: one four-hour lecture per week for six weeks. The course is organised in a reading group format. Students and teachers co-develop and discuss the content of the readings of the week. The teachers complement these discussions with lecturers on specific issues related to Business in Society. Prior to class, students send overviews of the articles, which form the basis of the in-class discussion.

Assessment
The final grade consists of:
• Final essay 50%
• Weekly individual assignments: 50%

Conditions to pass the course:
• The score for the individual essay must be 5.5 or higher.
• Attendance is mandatory to at least 5 of the 6 sessions. Students who miss more than one class will not be allowed to take the exam.

Resit:
• In the case of a resit only the final essay can be retaken.
• Results obtained for the weekly assignments will remain valid for the resit.

Course structure

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Room</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 29, 2018</td>
<td>13:00 – 17:00</td>
<td>REC E0.08</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 05, 2018</td>
<td>13:00 – 17:00</td>
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<td>November 12, 2018</td>
<td>13:00 – 17:00</td>
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<td>November 19, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 26, 2018</td>
<td>13:00 – 17:00</td>
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Course material consists of about six readings for each of the six sessions. Links to course material is available on the Canvas site of the course.