Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof. dr.ir. Hans Berends</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jj.berends@vu.nl">jj.berends@vu.nl</a></td>
<td>Course Coordinator &amp; Lecturer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. dr. Brian Pentland</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pentland@broad.msu.edu">pentland@broad.msu.edu</a></td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Target groups

The course *Process Research Methods 2017-2018* is open to PhD candidates, research master students, honours master students, postdocs, and junior faculty. This is an advanced course that assumes prior knowledge on qualitative research methods (e.g. the ABRI course Qualitative Research Methods). The course workload represents 6 ECTS. However, a smaller version of 3 ects is also possible.¹

Course Content

Most of the phenomena investigated by management and organization scholars evolve over time. This includes processes at various levels, such as team development, innovation, organizational change, interorganizational collaboration, and institutionalization. Process research methods have been developed to capture the dynamics of how such phenomena unfold over time, without reducing them to dependent or independent variables. This course provides an introduction to these process research methods. It provides the philosophical and theoretical background to process thinking, methods for collecting process data, and qualitative and quantitative methods for analyzing process data.

Learning Objectives

After finishing this course, participants have developed their:

- Understanding of process theorizing and different approaches to process research in management and organization studies
- Ability to make and justify choices in the design of process research
- Ability to apply qualitative and quantitative methods of process analysis
- Insight in reporting and publishing process studies.

Course Design

The course is organized around six full day sessions in September / October 2017 and individual assignments. Each session is dedicated to one aspect of process research methods, and will consist roughly of two parts: an interactive morning part in which a topic is introduced and an afternoon part in which participants engage in exercises and present and discuss process research methods in relation to their own work. Participants are expected to come well prepared to these sessions. Assignments and evaluation criteria for grading will be explained separately.

¹ The ‘light’ version of this course excludes the quantitative methods part (in particular session 4 and associated work) and the final assignment.
**Grading**
Attendance and active participation in the sessions is mandatory to pass this course. The requested readings mentioned above are assumed to have been read prior to class.

Participants receive two grades: one grade for class participation (including a presentation) (50%) and one grade for the final individual assignment (50%). The final score is the weighted average of these two grades. PhD candidates receive a pass/fail mark on the basis of their assignments. Participants receive 6 ECTS after successful completion of the course (or 3 ECTS when the 'light' version is selected, without final assignment).

**Workload and credits**
The estimated time participants spend on study activities is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attending Lectures and Interactive Assignment Sessions</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Studying Literature</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completing the Individual Assignments</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>168</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6 ECTS

**Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Morning session</th>
<th>Afternoon session</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept 6, <em>Wednesday</em></td>
<td>(VZ) HG-1D26</td>
<td>9:30-12:30</td>
<td>13:30-16:30</td>
<td>Hans Berends</td>
<td>Process theorizing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 13, <em>Wednesday</em></td>
<td>(VZ) HG-1D26</td>
<td>9:30-12:30</td>
<td>13:30-16:30</td>
<td>Hans Berends</td>
<td>Designing process research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 20, <em>Wednesday</em></td>
<td>(VZ) HG-1D26</td>
<td>9:30-12:30</td>
<td>13:30-16:30</td>
<td>Hans Berends</td>
<td>Qualitative analysis of process data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 27, <em>Wednesday</em></td>
<td>(VZ) HG-1D26</td>
<td>9:30-12:30</td>
<td>13:30-16:30</td>
<td>Brian Pentland</td>
<td>Quantitative analysis of event sequences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 11, <em>Wednesday</em></td>
<td>(VZ) HG-1D26</td>
<td>9:30-12:30</td>
<td>13:30-16:30</td>
<td>Hans Berends (and guest)</td>
<td>Reporting of process research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Session overview

Session 1: Process theorizing
Content
• process philosophy
• process theorizing in organization and management research
• introduction to process research methods
• process oriented research questions

Session 2: Designing process research
Content
• issues in the design of process research
• alternative strategies for doing process research

Session 3: Qualitative analysis of process data
Content
• different strategies for process analysis
• identifying events and creating event sequences
• coding events
• developing process theory

Session 4: Quantitative methods for analyzing event sequences
Content
• quantitative methods for analyzing event sequences (by Brian Pentland)

Session 5: Writing up process research studies
Content
• reporting qualitative process studies
• publishing process research
• presentation of examples of process studies