



Course syllabus

Faculty Board of Humanities and Social Sciences
School of Cultural Sciences

4BO405 Informationspraktiker för ledarskap i kollaborativt arbete, 15
högskolepoäng

Information practices for leadership in collaborative work, 15 credits

Subject Group

Library and Information Science

Level of classification

Second Level

Progression

A1N

Date of Ratification

Approved by the Board of the School of Cultural Sciences 2011-08-19

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2012

Prerequisites

BSc in LIS or Informatics, or equivalent.

Objectives

After successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- articulate a personal collaborative leadership philosophy including essential collaboration information practices
- explain and illustrate human centred systems thinking modelling and methods for collaborative informations systems design
- co-design communication, decision making, and planning systems that advance information exchange and knowledge creation
- appraise the cultural feasibility and political viability of strategies for ensuring sustainable collaborative initiatives
- appraise and apply soft systems thinking modelling and methods for improving collaborative information practices
- identify needs and construct models for collaborative information practices
- identify the institutional logic of appropriateness in different institutional settings and how this influence change and collaborative work in organisations
- examine and analyse different strategies for collaborative work and to communicate and report on the results for different target groups.

Content

The course is designed for students and professionals in information and communication and knowledge intensive fields such as media, libraries, IT-management and related fields such as architecture and planning, which operate in dynamically and rapidly

changing environments.

This course will enable participants to successfully transition workplaces in relation to changes in expectations and demands in their respective external environment. This course will introduce basic frameworks for appreciating organisational life, including successful change initiatives. It will also give tools for analysing and understanding of leadership in information practices including reflections on cultural and historical influences on different fields of practice.

The course is divided in three blocks:

Block A. Theoretical perspectives on leadership tasks and organisational life: Soft systems theory and practice; Institutional theory on decision making; Tools for strategic planning and organizational development.

Block B. Models for profession specific information practices in collaborative work: Defining organisational purposes and goals in collaborative settings; Designing and structuring communication, decision making and planning systems to achieve desired shared goals; Initiating and sustaining partnership and other relationships such as stakeholders, beneficiaries and different kind of users and audiences.

Block C. Practical project management strategies for advancing collaborative work: Advance collective organizational or professional understanding about essential principles and practices that inform collaborative information sharing, knowledge creation, and (digital) preservation practices. Co-create communication, decision making, and strategic planning systems that satisfy requirements for cultural efficacy and political viability within discipline or profession; Implement and evaluate collaborative initiative that advances strategic organizational or project priorities through adoption of collaborative information practices.

Type of Instruction

The course is built upon several teaching methods such as online lectures related to literature, writing a paper, chattings, synchronist sessions around central problems in collaborative information work, supervision by the teachers via IT of their project work, and an Internet conference on project results. Proposals revision, traditionally conduct.

There will also be practical training in the form of a workshop. The workshop consists of reflections over the relevance of theory in collaborative practices and drama-adventure of leadership, exploring the personal and collaborative aspects of leadership.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).

In order to pass the course, students need to meet the expected learning outcomes. Competence is assessed through examinations, papers, and project reports. In addition, students are required to participate in online lectures, discussion sessions, and the midcourse workshop.

A re-sit is offered within six weeks (within the framework of regular terms) and the number of re-sits is limited to five (in accordance with the Higher Education Ordinance 6 chap. 21 §).

Course Evaluation

The course will be evaluated according to decided policy at the department of Cultural Sciences.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

obligatory reading

Checkland, Peter & Poulter, John (latest edition) *Learning for Action: A Short Definitive Account of Soft Systems Methodology, and Its Use Practitioners,*

Teachers and Students. John Wiley & Sons. (200 p.)

Johannessen, Jon-Arild, Olsen Bjorn,
Roger Coleman, John Clarkson & Hua Dong (latest edition) *Design for Inclusivity*.
Ashgate Pub Co. (264 p.)

March, James (latest edition) *A Primer on Decision Making: how decisions happen*.
Free Press. (289 p.)

Olaisen, J. (1996). Information, Cognitive Authority and Organizational Learning. Pp. 7-
19 in: Olaisen, Johan; Erland Munch-Petersen and Patrick Wilson (eds.): *Information
Science. From the Development of the Discipline to Social Interaction*. Oslo:
Scandinavian University Press. (13 p.)

Somerville, Mary M (latest edition) *Working together: Collaborative Information
Practices for Organizational Learning*. ACRL. (100 p.)

Thompson, Bruce Alden, Craig L Pearce & Jay A Conger (latest edition) *Shared
Leadership: Reframing the Hows and Whys of Leadership*. Sage Publications. (344
p.)

Further literature will be included in relation to specific assignments (about 700 pages)