

COURSE SYLLABUS

Doctoral course: Firm Ownership and Ownership Forms, 7.5 credit points

Course code:
Reviewed by: RFB
Approved by: RFB
Valid as of: 19 February 2020
Version: 1
Reference number:

Education Cycle: Third cycle, doctoral program course
Doctoral programme subject: Business Administration

Purpose:

Firm ownership is a key form of corporate governance that governs or controls the actions of managers. However, although firms may be owned by different types of owners simultaneously, most studies examine owner influence on a particular firm outcome in isolation. The general purpose of this course is to provide a foundation for conducting and publishing original research in the areas of firm ownership and ownership forms. One important goal is to provide an overview of central perspectives, themes and strategic outcomes related with the topic. Students will learn to ‘know-the [ownership] field’ and be able to apply it in their research work. The other important goal is for students to develop the skills to critically assess the ownership field of research and conduct meaningful investigations by identifying important gaps, tensions or paradoxes in the literature and in empirical findings. Concepts and ideas on how firm ownership and ownership forms are or should be researched will be discussed. The course will cover several topics in the field along with relevant theoretical perspectives

Intended learning outcomes:

On completion of the course, the students will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

1. Demonstrate a broad knowledge of firm ownership and ownership forms, and an understanding of the related theories, perspectives and findings.

Skills and abilities

2. Identify appropriate angles to study different ownership forms and outcomes to develop research projects.
3. Demonstrate an ability to engage in scholarly analysis and discussions of different ownership topics in the entrepreneurship/strategy/management fields.

Judgement and approach

4. Evaluate and constructively criticize key contributions to the ownership field of research and demonstrate deeper insight into the strengths and weaknesses of the field, as well as its development trends.

Content:

There are many ownership topics and it is difficult to cover all in one course. This course will embrace a selection of the most influential topics in ownership applied in contemporary research. The topics will differ in their main areas of application to be able to offer a course that is relevant to a broad group of doctoral students in business administration. The content of this course includes emerging topics in ownership research. The content of this course includes a) Firm Ownership and Ownership Forms, b) Ownership Identity and Psychological Ownership, c) Firm Ownership and Corporate Restructuring, d) Firm Ownership and Innovation.

Type of Instruction/Teaching format:

The course is based on presentation seminars. This means that students are required to take an active approach to their own learning. The course leaders will facilitate interaction and dialogue during seminars, but participants will have to spend time on reading, writing and reflecting before and after the seminars.

Prerequisites:

Admitted to a doctoral programme in business administration or a related subject of a recognized business school or university.

Examination and grades:

The course will be examined in the following way:

- Attendance and active participation during discussion seminars. Fulfill ILOs 1-4.
- Assignments fulfil ILO 1-4

All parts of the examination must be passed to achieve a grade in the course. The grades for the course are “pass” or “fail”.

Course evaluation:

A course evaluation will be conducted at the end of the course.

Literature:

Literature provided by the instructors.

Course Dates:

The course will be given on Zoom on the following dates during Fall 2020:

- October 9th
- October 16th
- October 23rd
- October 30th
- November 6th

Course Leader: Professor Francesco Chirico

Sign up by filling in the enclosed form at the latest by September 15 2020.