



## COURSE SYLLABUS

### Magisterarbete i strategiskt ledarskap för hållbarhet

#### Master's Thesis (60 credits) in Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability 20 ECTS credit points (20 högskolepoäng)

**Course code:** SL2538

**Educational level:** Second cycle

**Course level:** A1E

**Field of education:** Technology

**Subject group:** Industrial Engineering and Management

**Subject area:** Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability

**Version:** 5

**Applies from:** 2017-08-01

**Approved:** 2017-05-26

#### 1 Course title and credit points

The course is titled Master's Thesis (60 credits) in Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability/Magisterarbete i strategiskt ledarskap för hållbarhet and awards 20 ECTS credits. One credit point (högskolepoäng) corresponds to one credit point in the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

#### 2 Decision and approval

This course is established by Dean 2017-03-01. The course syllabus was revised by Head of Department of Strategic Sustainable Development and applies from 2017-08-01.

Dnr: BTH-4.1.1-1702-2017

Replaces: SL2514

#### 3 Objectives

The purpose of the course is for the student to (1) develop deepened knowledge about a specific research topic of relevance to Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability, (2) develop deepened knowledge about and skill in applying research methodology, and (3) develop leadership skills through team work.

#### 4 Content

The course includes a thesis on a specific topic of relevance to Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability which the student selects for deeper studies. The content of supportive lectures, workshops and supervision is determined by the selected topic for the thesis. The overarching issue for the thesis should be how the studied phenomenon can contribute to society's transition to sustainability from a systems perspective on Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability and with regard to the complexity that sustainable development involves.

#### 5 Aims and learning outcomes

#### *Knowledge and understanding*

On completion of the course the student will be able to:

- Discuss key concepts within the general research area of Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability and, at a more nuanced level, within the selected thesis topic.

#### *Abilities and skills*

On completion of the course the student will be able to:

- Independently identify and formulate research questions of relevance to Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability and plan and carry out appropriate research within a given time frame to answer these questions.
- Orally and in writing present her/his research problems, approaches and results, argue for her/his conclusions and recommendations and discuss these with individuals and groups with different educational, professional and cultural backgrounds.
- Work collaboratively to achieve a goal.

#### *Judgment and approach*

On completion of the course the student will be able to:

- Reflect and contextualize a specific topic in relation to a systems perspective on Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability.
- Critically relate to different theories, concepts, methods and tools of relevance to Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability, from scientific, social and ethical perspectives, in ways that take into account the complexity of these phenomena.
- Critically examine, assess and discuss her/his own and others' research results and conclusions.
- Identify the need of further knowledge, concepts, methods and tools of relevance to Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability.

#### 6 Learning and teaching

The thesis is usually carried out in groups of three students. The teaching in the course includes, as a

support of the thesis work, lectures and workshops, supervision, group dialogues, individual reflection and reflection in groups and criticism of other students' theses. Teachers with many different scientific backgrounds, professional experience and perspectives take part as supervisors in the course. Each group has minimum two supervisors of which at least one is a senior researcher. Supervisors and students of different educational, professional and cultural backgrounds give feedback and give criticism of the theses at three common formal occasions during the course, including one final presentation. The final presentation is carried out in a format similar to a public defence of a doctoral thesis. Criticism is given by other students (with great diversity of backgrounds) and by supervisors, the examiner, other personnel and invited experts from business and society and the general public. A detailed support for the entire process (thesis kit), including instructions for writing, evaluation criteria, etc., is provided to the student.

English

## 7 Assessment and grading

### *Examination of the course*

Code	Module	Credit	Grade
1805	Written assignment 1	1 ECTS	G-U
1815	Written assignment 2	1 ECTS	G-U
1825	Written assignment 3	1 ECTS	G-U
1835	Written assignment 4	1 ECTS	G-U
1845	Thesis[1]	16 ECTS	A-F

<sup>1</sup> Determines the final grade for the course, which will only be issued when all components have been approved.

The course will be graded A Excellent, B Very good, C Good, D Satisfactory, E Sufficient, FX Fail, supplementation required, F Fail. A Pass on all items is required to obtain a final grade.

Only under exceptional circumstances can the course be performed entirely individually. Decision regarding exception and conditions for the work lies with the course responsible and course examiner.

A student who does not complete the course within the semester it was commenced, can get continued supervision at most for twelve months after the course ends. Supervision can also end when the planned supervision time is exhausted. However, a student is always entitled to submit assignments and a thesis report for grading at subsequent examination times. A student who re-registers for the course is not entitled to renewed supervision time unless the student joins a team of the current academic year.

A student, who has not submitted a thesis report of sufficient quality to be presented and defended within eight months from the start of the course, can at most receive grade B, since the student did not demonstrate ability to perform the task within a specific timeframe. The number of times that a student may be examined to get a passing grade on each of the examination components of the course is two during the ordinary academic year of the student and once a year thereafter. All submission

dates are determined by the course examiner. The thesis determines the final grade for the course, which will only be issued when all components have been approved.

## 8 Course evaluation

The course coordinator is responsible for systematically gathering feedback from the students in course evaluations and making sure that the results of these feed back into the development of the course.

## 9 Prerequisites

The courses Strategic Sustainable Development, 12.5 ECTS, Innovation for Sustainability, 5 ECTS and 2.5 ECTS in Leading in Complexity must have been passed.

## 10 Field of education and subject area

The course is part of the field of education and is included in the subject area Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability.

## 11 Restrictions regarding degree

The course cannot form part of a degree with another course, the content of which completely or partly corresponds with the contents of this course.

## 12 Course literature and other teaching material

### *Thesis in Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability*

Process description for the thesis (thesis kit).

