

## COURSE SYLLABUS

# Doctoral course: Strategy: Classics and Contemporary Research, 7.5 ECTS

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Course code:  
Reviewed by: RFB  
Approved by: RFB  
Valid as of: 2021-02-10  
Version: 1  
Reference number:

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

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Purpose:

The aim of this course is to provide an overview of the development of the strategy field from its classics to contemporary works.

Intended learning outcomes:

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

### *Knowledge and understanding*

1. Identify, present and discuss major theories and perspectives in strategy as well as the development of the field of strategy from its foundational to contemporary works.

### *Skills and abilities*

2. Engage in scholarly presentations, analysis and discussions within the field of strategy.
3. Independently and creatively identify a relevant topic within the field of strategy and to produce an academic paper, suitable for conference presentation, where this topic(s) is/are applied to one's own research.

### *Judgement and approach*

4. Critically evaluate and analyze key contributions to the strategy literature and the relevance and contributions of different perspective to one's own research.
5. Critically and independently evaluate own and colleagues' assignments.

Content:

The course is organized along the three major themes of Strategy Process, Strategy Content and Strategy Context which are organized around four of Mintzberg's 5 Ps of strategy and include ten schools of strategy. Both classic and contemporary works will be covered in the different sessions.

The sessions include the following:

1. What is strategy?
2. Strategy as a plan:
  - ✓ The design school - Strategy development as a process of realization
  - ✓ The planning school – Strategy development as a formal process
3. Strategy as a pattern:

- ✓ The learning school – Strategy development as an emergent process
  - ✓ The environment school – Strategy development as a reactive process
  - ✓ The power school – Strategy development as a negotiation process
  - ✓ The strategy as practice school – Strategy as an ongoing contextual process
4. Strategy as a position:
- ✓ The configurational school – Strategy development as a process of transformation
  - ✓ The positioning school – Strategy development as an analytical process
5. Strategy as a perspective:
- ✓ The cognitive school – Strategy development as a mental process
  - ✓ The cultural school – Strategy development as a collective process
  - ✓ The entrepreneurial school – Strategy development as a visionary process

Type of Instruction/Teaching format:

Literature-based lectures, seminars and one-on-one supervision.

Prerequisites:

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

Examination and grades:

The course will be examined in the following way:

- Individual assignment: Research paper, fulfills ILOs 1, 3 and 4.
- Individual assignment: Active participation in course sessions, research presentation and opposition, fulfills ILOs 2 and 5.

The course is graded Pass or Fail.

Course evaluation:

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

Additional information:

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Literature:

See separate literature list.