Risk and crisis management in organisations
Risk management: risk- och krishantering i organisationer
7,5 Credits/högskolepoäng

Ladok code: 22RM2D
Revision: 1
Valid from: Spring 2013
Approved by The Teaching Committee: 2012-11-14

Disciplinary domain: Social Sciences
Subject Group: Business administration (FE1)
Education Cycle: Advanced level
Main field of study: Business Administration (FÖA)
Progressive specialisation: A1N
Prerequisites: Completed courses of 60 credits in basic level in Business Administration
Grades: The grades for the course are Not passed (U), Passed (G) or Passed with distinction (VG).

The objective of this course is to provide theoretical and practical insight into risk and crisis management, with an emphasis on organizational settings.

Knowledge and understanding
After completion of the course the student should:
- have an understanding of the concepts of risk and crisis in contemporary society, and further understand ways of applying these concepts in different disciplines of the social sciences, such as anthropology, psychology, sociology and organisation theory and
- be able to identify, analyse and understand the use of different rhetorical strategies that are used by organisations in their crisis communication.

Judgment and approach
After completion of the course the student should be able to:
- competently reflect on and relate to how the concept of risk is used on individual, organizational, and societal level and
- independently and systematically value and relate to risk management activities in organizational settings.

Skills and abilities
After having completed the course the student should:
- have an ability to independently and competently work out action plans for risk management in organizations,
- be able to apply strategies for crisis communication, in written and spoken form, and be able to plan and organise communication strategies for potential crises situations,
- improved his/her ability to work with projects in group form and
- improved his/her skill to write and present academic and professional texts and messages.

Contents
The course is organized around three modular sections that overlap each other.

The first module introduces the concept of risk, and explores social, organizational and political dimensions of risk, drawing on material from psychology, sociology, social anthropology and organisation theory. The module consists of lectures and seminars with the purpose of providing the concepts and theories needed to grasp the meaning of risk in contemporary organizations and society.
The second module is directed towards practice. It addresses risk management in corporate life activities. The module consists of lectures and a group assignment of working out and presenting a risk management plan for an upcoming organizational event. The module provides the students with tools for working with practical risk management in organizations.

The third module deals with two aspects of crisis communication: the planning of crisis communication and the rhetoric of crisis communication. The module consists of lectures and a group assignment in which the students analyse a case of crisis communication and present their results in a seminar.

**Forms of Teaching**
Teaching consists of lectures and seminars. The teaching language and literature is in English.

**Forms of examination**
The learning outcomes for each module will be assessed accordingly:
- Module one: written exam at the end of the course, and seminar participation during the course.
- Module two: written group case assignment to be handed in and presented at the end of the module.
- Module three: written exam at the end of course, and a written group assignment to be handed in and presented at the end of the module.

In addition, active participation at the seminars is mandatory in all three modules.

To pass the course, ‘Pass’ is required on the written exam and on the two written group assignments. For ‘Pass with Distinction’ on the course, ‘Pass with Distinction’ is required on the written exam, and on at least one of the group assignments. Student rights and obligations at examination are according to the guidelines and rules for the University of Borås.

**Literature and Other Teaching Means**

Compendium will be added during the course.

**Student Influence and Evaluation**
The compilation is made public in accordance with the Schools regulations and will be the foundation for future course planning and is part of the program evaluation that is carried out.

**Miscellaneous**
The course is given as a non-compulsory course.