



FME3534 Classics in Industrial Management 7.5 credits

Klassiker i industriell ekonomi

This is a translation of the Swedish, legally binding, course syllabus.

If the course is discontinued, students may request to be examined during the following two academic years

Establishment

Course syllabus for FME3534 valid from Autumn 2013

Grading scale

G

Education cycle

Third cycle

Specific prerequisites

Language of instruction

The language of instruction is specified in the course offering information in the course catalogue.

Intended learning outcomes

Course contents

The objective with this course is to:

1. give historical knowledge about how the main traditions have evolved;
2. give an understanding of how the interplay of various forces have influenced the industrial practice;
3. in a more speculative finish deal with what can be said about the future.

Disposition

The course builds on ten seminars, where some of the basic works within industrial management will be covered. Each contribution will be discussed in terms of: What is the issue? Which is the leading idea? What is the economic, social and technical context? What are the elements in the suggested solution? Evidens? Problematic aspects? What can be said about the underlying view of man? How is leadership addressed? Last but not least: implications for your own research?

Point of departure is taken in the cradle of industry, the late 18th century and Adam Smith. The course will end in today's Lean Production – if nothing else pops up during the journey. The emphasis will be on ideas and less on practical prowess. Surprisingly many of the old concepts survive in one form or another, still often referred to in the debate on postindustrial value creation. We shall identify some of the most central ideas, which are now considered as

classics. The grouping in the list below can be disputed, however, but provides some structure. Also, the list is not yet complete.

Early industry – manual produktivity

- Division of work: Adam Smith, Charles Babbage

Mature industry – the technical potential

- Rationalization movement: Fredrick Taylor, Frank Gilbreth, Henry Gantt, Henry Ford m.fl.

Late industry – the human potential

- Hawthorne
- Human Relations: Maslow, McGregor, Herzberg
- Sociotechnical Systems
- Quality movement: Deming m.fl.

- Lean Production:

Postindustrialism

- Processledning: Hammer & Champy
- Etc

Course literature

Kurslitteraturen är engelskspråkig och består i huvudsak av utdrag ur originalarbeten och omfattar ca 2000 sidor och kommer att finnas som kompendium. /

The literature is in English, mainly consisting of excerpts from original works, but also some commentary articles. It encompasses some 2000 pages and will be provided as compendium.

Examination

Based on recommendation from KTH's coordinator for disabilities, the examiner will decide how to adapt an examination for students with documented disability.

The examiner may apply another examination format when re-examining individual students.

Examination consists of active participation and a written group work.

Seminars will take place every second week, although deviations may occur.

Ethical approach

- All members of a group are responsible for the group's work.
- In any assessment, every student shall honestly disclose any help received and sources used.
- In an oral assessment, every student shall be able to present and answer questions about the entire assignment and solution.