



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Business Administration

Syllabus

Leading people: human capital, power and influence in organisations

Course Code: FEAD63

Course Title: Leading people: human capital, power and influence in organisations
Leda människor: humankapital, makt och påverkan inom organisationer

Credits: 7.5

Degree Level: Master's level

Progressive Specialisation: Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1N)

Major Field of Study:

FOA (Business Administration)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2025-09-12, and is valid from the Spring semester 2026 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

A Bachelor degree of at least 180 ECTS credits, including at least 90 ECTS credits with progression in the main area of study Business Administration or a Technology, Science, Social Science, or Humanities main area of study, or 90 ECTS credits of Business Administration courses in the Business and Economics programme, with 30 ECTS credits at the G2F level or higher, and upper secondary level English 6 or English level 2, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. identify, analyse, and reflect critically upon the relationship between technology, work,

and leadership in organisations,

2. explain and reflect critically upon how power, influence, and organisational structures affect people's agency in high-tech environments, and
3. discuss and apply relevant theories and concepts critically in order to examine the role of leadership in organisations undergoing technological change.

Content

The course treats connections between people, leadership, and organisation in a changing world where technology often functions as an enabler but is not in focus. Key themes include how work is organised and managed, how power and influence are wielded in various organisational contexts, and how leadership affects both people and value-creating processes. The course highlights how structures, cultures, and relationships in organisations influence the agency and commitment of individuals and groups. Through working with theories and models of leadership, organisation, and influence, students are provided with tools for understanding and analysing the role of leadership in the creation of value for both organisations and society. Instruction is in the form of lectures, seminars, and application exercises, and the course requires active participation and independent work.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on written and oral, individual and group assignments presented and discussed in seminars.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.