



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Business Administration

Syllabus

Social sustainability in business development

Course Code:

FEAD64

Course Title:

Social sustainability in business development
Social hållbarhet i affärsutveckling

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. describe and explain social sustainability and related theories, concepts, models, and methods,
2. explain, analyse, and reflect critically upon how social sustainability can be integrated in different types of businesses and organisations in order to attain business benefits, and
3. analyse and reflect critically upon social challenges that affect businesses and how such

challenges can be handled to achieve both social and business benefits.

Content

The aim of the course is to provide students with knowledge and understanding regarding the integration of social sustainability in business development as a way to create long-term value for organisations as well as society. The course introduces key social sustainability concepts and perspectives, such as equality, inclusion, justice, and human rights, as well as tools and methods that can be used to develop business models that take social influence and responsibility into account. Students have the opportunity to work on practical solutions that combine business benefits with the creation of social value. The course also treats challenges in relation to the assessment and implementation of social sustainability in business contexts, especially in complex environments where multiple stakeholders interact.

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.