



Temporary organizing, and organizing by projects

Doctoral course 7.5 ECTS

Projects and temporary ways of organizing have proliferated in most industries in the last decades. As a result, projects are today one of the main driving forces in the economy with a tremendous impact, influencing everything from individuals' lives through temporary employment, to the way organizations are organized to meet the managerial demands and challenges. The impact of projects and temporary organizing are however not restricted to industry but it is also reflected in scholarly work.

Major developments have taken place in businesses and organizing after the 1990s, with significant implications on how temporary organizations are managed and how project-based operations are organized as part of business and the public sector. For example, information and communication technologies have flourished, causing new kinds of opportunities for controlling material and information flows, also in project-based operations. Simultaneously, such technologies are changing the way in which people behave and perform as part of temporary organizations, and how they manage the boundary between work and spare time. These changes are not, yet, fully understood in the context of project-based organizing. Similarly, companies as well as public organizations have undergone some degree of "projectification" as a consequence of Lean management and New public management, whereby the project-based operations have become more common and now increasingly dominate managerial discourse that influence practice, strategic work and how value is created. The emerging dominance of project-based work calls for understanding the diversity of project management practices across different contexts. Furthermore, companies are increasingly international, thereby creating a need to develop project cultures that are not strictly bound by national cultures. These are examples of shifts affecting temporary organizing and organizing by projects, thereby calling for new research.

This course represent an opportunity to reenact and strengthen the third wave of temporary organizing research that have become internationally known as "The Scandinavian Approach" to project management, furthering a 4th generation of temporary organizing scholars. The idea is to have a dense student-faculty ratio during the master class session to facilitate discussions, but also provide a bridge of experience between the waves of research.

Aim

The course aim is to address contemporary research streams of temporary organizing, project organizations, and leadership. Particular focus will be on what can be referred to as a qualitative/behavioral European 3rd generation research tradition that has emerged since the 1990-ies, and that possibly is developing into a fourth wave of research on temporary organizing.

Course outline

The course will be organized in three parts; a reading package of selected literature, a 4 day intensive course master class session consisting of lectures, workshops, project / paper idea presentations and individual coaching, a term paper to be presented as a conference paper of choice. Students will be matched with "out of own university" coaches for the term papers that will act as mentors throughout the paper writing and up until the conference.

An ambition will be to edit a Special issue of "Freshmen on temporary organizing - A Scandinavian perspective".



Examination

- Active participation in the course, with a clear demonstration of knowing the literature.
- A written assignment, encompassing the submission, acceptance and presentation of a paper at an international research conference, and/or acceptance for review in an international peer reviewed academic journal.

Faculty

Professor Markus Hällgren, Umeå University, Sweden

Professor Marcus Lindahl, Uppsala University, Sweden

Professor Jonas Söderlund, BI, Norway

Professor Runólfur Smári Steinþórsson, University of Iceland, Iceland

Associate Professor Tina Karrbom Gustavsson, Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden

Associate Professor Anette Hallin, Mälardalen University, Sweden

Location

To ensure close collaboration and dense interaction between faculty and students, the master class will be held in Longyearbyen, Svalbard, Norway.

Time

21-24th of September 2015.

Cost

The cost of the course is 620 Euros. Accommodation in a shared apartment, lunches and a conference dinner is provided.

Target group

PhD students from the NFF participating countries that have a particular research interest in temporary organizing, management and leadership in a broad sense.

Participants

Limited availability, 15 PhD students based on first come first serve selection and a demonstration of relevant project research interest.

Application deadline

Applications or questions to be sent to: projectorganizing@gmail.com

Deadline: 30th of April, 2015.

Notification of acceptance: 31th of May

Applications are to include:

- CV, including publication list
- Description of research interest in project organizing (2p)