What Responsible Management Competencies do BSc BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE MANAGEMENT: SERVICE AND INNOVATION Students Acquire?







This report was prepared by the CBS Office of Responsible Management Education and is part of our engagement in the UN-backed Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME).

Photos: Bjarke MacCarthy, Jakob Boserup

INTRODUCTION

This report highlights the role responsible management education plays in the Business Administration and Service Management (BSc SEM) programme, Service and Innovation concentration. Through the Curriculum Development project, the CBS PRME office has sought to identify and explore which competencies related to responsible management are acquired by students at BSc SEM during their time in the programme. This report presents results based on findings from student focus groups as well as from meetings and on-going interaction with faculty members. The purpose is to explicitly identify how these SEM competencies are integrated in different courses and to encourage a coherent progression across the entire programme.

In 2013, the BSc SEM programme introduced a new structure of three concentrations of specialisations:

Tourism and Hospitality, Arts and Culture, and Service Innovation. This report will specifically describe the aspects of responsible management education that are present in the courses taught in the Service and Innovation concentration.

By combining the knowledge gained in various courses throughout the programme, students achieve a complete picture of both the societal and the business fields in which they will be working. In the context of this programme, responsible management is discussed from a managerial perspective by examining how service companies that are socially minded can also maximise profits. In addition, corporate actions are critically examined from a societal perspective in order to identify opportunities for stronger synergies between businesses and society.

Competency Profile

Discussions with the Study Board and faculty have identified the following competencies in responsible management that are developed by SEM students through their studies:

- The ability to understand the role of corporate social and environmental responsibilities in a service context.
- The ability to examine innovative approaches taken by service organizations in pursuit of sustainability goals.
- The ability to recognize and reflect on the challenges and opportunities for service innovations that arise from sustainability aspects.

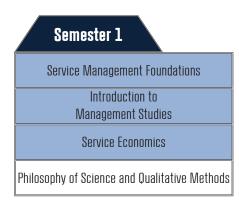
While all courses are naturally aimed at supporting the development of these competencies in BSc SEM students, they are specifically addressed in the flagship course *Service Innovation and Sustainability* (6th semester) and further elaborated on in the following corner stone courses: *Service Management Foundations, Service Economics, Introduction to Management Systems* (1st Semester); *Financial Accounting, Strategy in a Service Perspective* and *Organisational Behaviour* (3rd Semester).

Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to all those who contributed to this project. In particular, we would like to thank Adriana Budeanu for all her help with the development of this report and for acting as an ambassador for the BSc SEM programme. We would also like to acknowledge the programme director, Trine Bille, for her continuous support.

Semester Review of Responsible Management at BSc SEM

FIRST SEMESTER

Responsibility Day is the first opportunity for BSc SEM students to reflect on business practices through the lens of their study programme. During this day, responsible management education is presented through a selected case which is then critically discussed by the students. Adriana Budeanu was the SEM faculty representative for Responsibility Day from 2010 to 2015. In 2016, Marianne Bertelsen facilitated Responsibility Day for SEM. During the day students are taught about responsibility issues from an SEM perspective and are encouraged to discuss different points of views (pros and cons) of responsible management. According to both Marianne and the students themselves, the session was highly informative.



SERVICE MANAGEMENT FOUNDATIONS provides the students with a context for discussions on ethical issues pertaining to services and service sectors. Through cases and class discussions, the Service Innovation concentration explores innovation opportunities, and discusses how such opportunities can sometimes be created by corporate efforts to reduce the environmental and/or social impacts of their activities.

In **INTRODUCTION TO MANAGEMENT STUDIES**, students are firstly presented with the organisational biography of a firm. They gain the skills to recognise firm structures and processes, while also learning about contingency factors such as the environment and ethical stakeholder interaction. The course also explores the importance of responsibility to create value for both society and businesses, and presents the sustainable competitive advantage view as a valid business strategy.

SERVICE ECONOMICS presents responsible management to students in three specific contexts. It is thoroughly discussed in the context of operation management, while a discussion of employees' empowerment and new models of HR management is generated through the case of Amy Ice-Cream. The environmental impact and consequences of the social landscape are also discussed, specifically taking into account the consequences of facility placement. Finally, ethical consumer groups are examined in the context of consumer typologies in order to illustrate the moral decisions involved in consumer behaviour and the implications for corporate strategy.

Second Semester

Explicit examples of responsible management teaching and/or content were not identified in this semester, pointing to a more implicit method of addressing responsible management education.

Semester 2

Managerial Economics

Statistics and Quantitative Methods

1st Year Project: Service Marketing

THIRD SEMESTER

The **FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING** course develops students' understanding of the role of ethics in the decision-making process, as one of the key learning objectives of the course. The course textbook, Financial Accounting – The Impact on Decision Makers (Porter & Norton), includes ethical dilemmas and questions in every chapter. The first lecture of this course, coinciding with the first chapter of the textbook, includes an 'ethics-decision-model'. Discussions of ethical dilemmas are generated in class by presenting this model and illustrating it with real cases, including the bankruptcy of Enron in 2001. The exam session also typically includes at least one ethics-related question.



ORGANISATIONAL BEHAVIOUR focuses on the use of multiple perspectives in order to understand business and organisational decisions. Making sense of organisations, power groups, cultures, leadership and environments are some of the key study focal points. Students are presented with stakeholder theory, as well as general environment and global trends. In addition, some of the key constructs of the course include the role of ethics in leadership and the role of CSR in organisational management, as well as many environmental considerations.

STRATEGY IN A SERVICE PERSPECTIVE introduces students to strategic planning and specifically references the use of CSR. In the 7th lecture a broad overview of CSR is introduced to students before the focus is narrowed down to the use of CSR as a common business strategy. This strategy is used for public relations, advertising, promoting brand image, and as a marketing tool. The teaching emphasises that CSR is a relevant strategy for companies, but can also, if used inappropriately, draw unwanted attention to a different side of company practices. The set readings include both positive and negative views of the subject in order to promote a balanced discussion in class. Included in the reading list is the UN Global Compact, which is analysed by a student group and presented to the rest of the class. Finally, the students discuss the Starbucks case of coffee-growing practices in relation to small coffee farms.

FOURTH SEMESTER

Explicit examples of responsible management teaching and/or content were not identified in this semester, pointing to a more implicit method of addressing responsible management education.



Macroeconomics

Corporate Finance

Prediction Markets and Crowd Sourcing for Firm Innovation 2nd Year Project: Service Development and

Design

FIFTH SEMESTER

This semester is dedicated to an exchange, elective courses or an internship within a company. Of the **112** electives available to the Service and Innovation concentration, **7** directly address responsible management, including *Introduction to Sustainable Business, Greening Product and Service Design Processes* and *Introduction to Social Entrepreneurship.*

Semester 5

Elective Courses, Exchange or Internship

SIXTH SEMESTER

SERVICE INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY provides students with conceptual frameworks and theoretical knowledge that are relevant for critically examining how innovation in service organisations can contribute to sustainable development. The course takes the perspective of innovation as an approach to problem-solving, and focuses on strategic and managerial challenges raised by social and environmental aspects as relevant sources of innovative and creative thinking when developing product and services. The course combines theoretical knowledge, empirical case studies and tools that can be applied to examine and discuss sustainable innovations in service contexts. This is the flagship course of the BSc SEM (Service and Innovation) programme in terms of responsible management education.

Semester 6

Public Regulations

Service Innovation and Sustainability

Bachelor Project

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Flagship Course Flagship courses act as anchors in the programme and play a central role in coordinating the generation of responsible management competencies. Corner Stone Course Corner stone courses act as binding blocks between the semesters and ensure a systematic progression of content and competencies related to responsible management.		gship courses act as anchor ner stone courses act as bi	's in the programme and play and ing blocks between the sem	a central role in coordinating th nesters and ensure a systemati	e generation of responsible m e progression of content and	lanagement competencies. competencies related to resul	onsihla mananamant

CONTACTS AND **R**ESOURCES

Below we have a list of the key people associated with BSc SEM: Service and Innovation, which you may find useful:

SEM Ambassador

Associate Professor Adriana Budeanu has agreed to be the ambassador for BSc SEM. Please feel free to contact her if you have any questions regarding responsible management education within the programme.



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SEM Concentration Coordinator

Adriana Budeanu serves as the concentration coordinator for the BSc SEM Service and Innovation programme.



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PRME Project Manager

Lavinia losif-Lazar is responsible for the Curriculum Development project. Please send any suggestions for amendments to her.



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Associate Professor Trine Bille serves as the study director for the BSc SEM programme.



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PRME Academic Director

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