

Sustainable Value Chain Strategies

Hållbara värdekedjor
6 credits

Programme course

TEAE18

Valid from: 2026 Spring semester

Determined by	Main field of study	
Board of Studies for Mechanical Engineering and Design	Industrial Engineering and Management	
Date determined	Course level	Progressive specialisation
2025-08-28	Second cycle	A1F
Revised by	Disciplinary domain	
	Technology	
Revision date	Subject group	
	Industrial Engineering and Management	
Offered first time	Offered for the last time	
Autumn semester 2020		
Department	Replaced by	
Institutionen för ekonomisk och industriell utveckling		

Course offered for

- Master of Science in Industrial Engineering and Management - International
- Master of Science in Design and Product Development
- Master of Science in Industrial Engineering and Management
- Master of Science in Energy - Environment - Management

Prerequisites

Corporate strategy, Sustainable development

Intended learning outcomes

The aim of the course is that the students should develop knowledge and understanding about business and management strategies for economic, environmental and social sustainability in the context of value chains. The students will learn to develop strategies, and to apply theories, methods and tools enabling them to systematically analyze value creation and different strategic sustainability challenges and opportunities in the context of the strategic management of value chains, business ecosystems and business relationships. The course also aims to provide an overview of value chains, their actors and interrelationships.

After successful completion of the course, the student should on an advanced level be able to:

- Describe and explain theories on business strategy and value creation relative sustainability in business ecosystems.
- Describe and elaborate on the role and importance of sustainability in the strategic management of firms and value chains.
- Based on theories and models for strategic value chain development, describe and analyze driving forces and barriers for firm sustainability, in business ecosystems and value chains from different stakeholder perspectives.
- Apply relevant theories, methods and tools in order to critically evaluate sustainable value chain strategies for a firm as well as for a value chain.
- Develop structured solutions to identified sustainability challenges with implications for relevant stakeholders, from a strategic management perspective.

Course content

The course focuses on a number of key themes. Examples include:

- The value chain concept, including business relationships and network/ecosystem theory
- Value and resource analysis - theoretical concepts as well as critical views and limitations of current conceptualizations.
- Strategies, principles and tools for sustainable value chains and networks from a business and management perspective.
- Role and relevance of economic, environmental and social sustainability for contemporary firm strategies and value creation in value chains.
- The role of the firm for value chain sustainability development.
- Sustainable business models.

Teaching and working methods

Teaching will be in the form of lectures, seminars and project work.

Examination

UPG1	Oral and written examination	3 credits	U, 3, 4, 5
PRA1	Project	2 credits	U, 3, 4, 5
UPG2	Seminars	1 credits	U, G

To pass the course students must attend the compulsory seminars, participate in and pass the project, as well as pass the written examinations.

Grades for examination modules are decided in accordance with the assessment criteria presented at the start of the course.

Grades

Four-grade scale, LiU, U, 3, 4, 5

Other information

About teaching and examination language

The teaching language is presented in the Overview tab for each course. The examination language relates to the teaching language as follows:

- If teaching language is “Swedish”, the course as a whole could be given in Swedish, or partly in English. Examination language is Swedish, but parts of the examination can be in English.
- If teaching language is “English”, the course as a whole is taught in English. Examination language is English.
- If teaching language is “Swedish/English”, the course as a whole will be taught in English if students without prior knowledge of the Swedish language participate. Examination language is Swedish or English depending on teaching language.

Other

The course is conducted in such a way that there are equal opportunities with regard to sex, transgender identity or expression, ethnicity, religion or other belief, disability, sexual orientation and age.

The planning and implementation of a course should correspond to the course syllabus. The course evaluation should therefore be conducted with the course syllabus as a starting point.

The course is campus-based at the location specified for the course, unless otherwise stated under “Teaching and working methods”. Please note, in a campus-based course occasional remote sessions could be included.