Critical Management Studies (7.5 ects credits)

Organized by: Sverre Spoelstra
3-7 April, 2017
30 hours of teaching, lecturing, and seminars
Cost: The course fee will be 5000 Swedish Krona. VAT (25%) will also be charged to students from outside Sweden and Swedish students paying for the course personally.

Many researchers in management and organization studies assume that companies and other organizations work for ‘the common good’, that their outputs make things better for customers, employees, owners and the general public. Organizational structures and practices are thought to accomplish organizational objectives and serve stakeholders. In short, organizational and institutional arrangements are seen as fair and unproblematic. In contrast, studies within critical management problematize the status quo. They focus on the ‘darker’ side of business and organizations.

The word ‘critical’ has, of course, a number of meanings. All research is critical in the sense that the researcher is observant and intolerant of weak argumentation, speculative statements, erroneous conclusions etc. In Critical Management Studies, ‘critical’ is understood as the stimulation of a more extensive reflection upon established ideas, ideologies and institutions in order to encourage liberation or at least reduce repression. Critical theory is referred to as a tradition of social science, including the Frankfurt School and related authors and lines of thought such as Foucault, poststructuralism, certain versions of feminism and so on. Critical Management Studies is a large and expanding research orientation, prominent in organization studies but also to some extent in accounting, marketing and strategy.

The PhD course aims to give an advanced introduction to the theoretical frameworks, research interests, methodologies and discussions in Critical Management Studies. The course will also give examples of critical studies and explores how critical research can be produced. Much space will be given for participants to present and get feedback on their ideas and projects.

Content
- Theoretical roots of CMS such as critical theory, post-structuralism, labour process theory, critical realism, post-colonialism and feminism
- Methodological issues in doing CMS
- Applying CMS in fields such as leadership and identity
- CMS and philosophy
- Performativity and non-performativity in CMS
- Ethics, aesthetics and CMS
- Publishing in CMS and the rise of ‘excellence’
Examination
Written paper based on student’s own project (max 4000 words). Deadline: end of August, 2017.

Literature
And a selection of articles.

Teachers
Sverre Spoelstra (Lund University) will supervise the course. Other teachers will include Mats Alvesson (Lund University), Nick Butler (Stockholm University), Susanne Ekman (Roskilde University) and Bent Meier Sørensen (Copenhagen Business School). More teachers will be announced.

Applications for Critical Management Studies Course
Applicants should submit a short bio on their motivation for joining the course as well as a short description of their own research project (the latter will be distributed to other students of the course). Please send this document along with the completed application form (attached as appendix) to Sverre Spoelstra (sverre.spoelstra@fek.lu.se) by February 28th, 2017, for provisional acceptance. (We can give earlier notification of provisional acceptance if needed). Students who are provisionally accepted will be forwarded details of a CMS bank account number held by the host department. The course fee will need to be paid into this account by March 20th, 2017, for applicants to be definitely accepted to the course. In certain cases, such as when students come from partner universities, course fees may be waived.
Course application for external PhD students

All our compulsory courses are free of charge.

Our optional courses are free of charge for PhD students belonging to Lund University School of Economics and Management, the department of Business Administration at a U6 university (i.e. the universities of Gothenburg, Linköping, Stockholm, Umeå and Uppsala) and the Doctoral School of Organization and Management Studies (OMS), CBS, Denmark.

If nothing else is stated in the course information, the course fee for PhD students not belonging to any of the above departments is SEK 5,000 (+ 25% VAT).

For more information, please see [http://www.fek.lu.se/en/phd-studies/courses](http://www.fek.lu.se/en/phd-studies/courses)

Course:

Name:

Personal ID number (personnr) / Date of birth:

Telephone and mail:

Admitted to PhD studies at (please state department, university, address)

Invoice address and contact person (if applicable):

Director of PhD studies (or equivalent):

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Signature of director of PhD studies (or equivalent)  Date
at the applicant’s home department

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Clarification of signature (readable)