



Programme of Course "Business Organization"

- Code: DT0343
- Type of course unit: Compulsory (Master Degree in Applied Data Science curriculum Data for Smart City), Compulsory (Master Degree in Applied Data Science curriculum Data for Life Science)
- Level of course unit: Postgraduate Degrees
- Semester: 1

Number of ects credits: (Master Degree in Applied Data Science) 6 (workload 150 hours)

Teachers: Alessia Sammarra (alessia.sammarra@univaq.it)

1	Course objectives	<p>This is a course on the design, diagnosis, and management of business organizations. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to frameworks for understanding organizational processes and to give them experience in applying these frameworks to particular cases. A basic premise of this course is that there are no universal rules or models for managing organizations. Practices that worked well in the past will not necessarily continue to work well in the future, and changes that helped one type of firm may harm another. Thus, the primary aim of this course is to provide students with a critical understanding of how external as well as internal factors influence the structure and functioning of the organization. Typically, students of this course do not have extensive organizational experience. Consequently, in order to engage them in today's world of organizations, this course includes class discussions and group exercises based on the analysis of real-world cases of companies and organizations that have undergone a major shift in strategic and organizational direction, structure or values.</p>
2	Course content and learning outcomes (dublin descriptors)	<p>Topics of the module include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the role of the external environment and organizational stakeholders • Key organizational processes for value creation, organizational value chain • The design parameters for organizational effectiveness, efficiency & flexibility • Structural configurations • Organization, technology and innovation • Managing organizational change <p>On successful completion of this module, the student should :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this course, the student should be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Explain the main structural and contextual dimensions which affect organizational effectiveness and efficiency o Understand and design organizational charts and formal structures o Discuss the role of coordination and communication in organizational processes o Apply basic concepts of organizational design to organizational scenarios in order to understand and solve business challenges o Understand the role of technology for organizational functioning and success, and comprehend the relation between innovation and organizational structure and culture o Identify and apply tactics for implementing effective change management projects in work and organizational contexts
3	Course prerequisites	
4	Teaching methods and language	<p>This course adopts an active learning approach. This means that there will be lectures but we will also spend a great deal of time in class discussions and individual and group exercises. A varied classroom approach will be adopted, including lectures, cases, individual exercises, team assignments, students' presentations and other experiential training techniques. Students are strongly recommended to attend class on a regular basis. The attendance requirement will be enforced through individual and group assignment during the course. Based on the instructor's evaluation, students will receive an evaluation in points (up to 4 points). These bonus grade points will be added to his/her final grade. Only students who have attended the course regularly (at 80% per cent of class hours) can use bonus points. Bonus points can be added to the written exam's score (only when the score is equal or greater than 18/30).</p>

		<p>Language: English</p> <p>Reference textbooks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•• Daft, R.L. , <i>Organization Theory and Design</i> . Cengage Learning . (vol. 12 Ed.) 2016.• Dessler, G. , <i>Organization Theory. Integrating structure and behavior</i>. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall. . 1986.• Jones, G. R. , <i>Organizational Theory, Design and Change</i> . Pearson. (vol. 7th Edition) 2013.• Mintzberg, H. , <i>The Structuring of organizations</i>. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall. . 1979.
5	Assessment methods	Written exam The written exam consists of a 45-minutes in-class assessment composed by closed questions (true or false questions, multiple choice questions) and essay questions.