



Bachelor's courses Faculty of Social Sciences

VU University Amsterdam - Student- & Onderwijszaken - Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit - 2019-2020

Behaviour and Communication in Organizations

Course code	S_BCO ()
Period	Period 4
Credits	6.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculty of Social Sciences
Coordinator	dr. J.W. Ouwerkerk
Examinator	dr. J.W. Ouwerkerk
Teaching staff	dr. J.W. Ouwerkerk
Teaching method(s)	Reading, Study Group
Level	200

Course objective

On completion of the course students have (a) an overview of theories and models from organizational sciences, communication science, and other relevant fields of research to explain behavior and communication in the workplace at the level of the individual, the group, and the organization as a whole, (b) knowledge about a wide variety of topics such as work attitudes and motivation, group dynamics and teamwork, decision making and managing conflict, power and leadership, and organizational change, and (c) experience with applying this knowledge to solve relevant cases.

Course content

Theories and models from organizational sciences, communication science, and other relevant fields of research are introduced to explain behavior and communication in the workplace at the level of the individual, the group, and the organization as a whole. During the lectures, knowledge is presented about a wide variety of topics such as work attitudes and motivation, group dynamics and teamwork, decision making and managing conflict, power and leadership, and organizational change. In the accompanying workgroups knowledge is applied by solving several relevant cases in teams.

Form of tuition

Lectures and workgroups. Attendance for the workgroups is mandatory.

Type of assessment

Digital exam and solving relevant cases in teams.

Course reading

Book: Kreitner, R., & Kinicki, A. (2013). *Organizational Behavior* (10th ed.). New York, NY: McGraw Hill. A student edition of this book is for sale at the VU bookshop. In addition to this book, the course literature consists of an electronic reader containing several scientific articles. The content of this reader will be announced on the Canvas page of the course.

Target group

Bachelor students Communication Science.

Blackboard/Canvas Explanation

It would be wise to check the Canvas page before the start of the course for additional information.

Registration procedure

You have to sign up for the course and the accompanying parts. However, you cannot sign up for a specific workgroup before the course starts. Students are assigned to workgroups in the second week of the course by “self-enrollment” on the Canvas page of the course. A detailed explanation of the procedure is provided during the first lecture and on Canvas.