

COURSE MANUAL 2024:

Organizations and Institutions

Södertörn University

GENERAL INFORMATION (all dates and times may be subject to slight changes)

A doctoral course on Organizations and Institutions (7.5 credits) will be given November 2024 to December 2024 at Södertörn University (Campus Flemingsberg).

The aim of the course is to give an overview of important theoretical traditions within organization theory and institutional theory, using experts in the field.

Noomi Weinryb (noomi.weinryb@sh.se) has the main responsibility for coordinating the course, and Zhanna Kravchenko (zhanna.kravchenko@sh.se) is the co-coordinator. Noomi Weinryb and Zhanna Kravchenko are the examiners. Lina Lorentz is responsible for all administrative issues, including registration: forskarutbildning.isv@sh.se.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completing the course, the doctoral student can:

- demonstrate in-depth knowledge and understanding of important debates within classic and modern institutional theory and organization theory,
- display in-depth knowledge and understanding of the relationships between organizations and institutions,
- analyze and compare differing perspectives in modern organizational research,
- apply perspectives from organization theory in analyses of social phenomena at an advanced level,
- autonomously formulate research problems on the basis of modern institutional theory and organization theory,
- adopt an independent, critical and analytical approach to varying perspectives in both modern and institutional theory and organization theory, and
- reflect on the opportunities and limitations presented by differing modern theoretical perspectives on organizations and institutions.

COURSE CONTENT

The course provides a multidisciplinary perspective on both established and emerging theories about institutions and organizations. It aims to provide deep and broad knowledge of organizations and institutions as well as the relevance of institutional and organizational theories for analyzing social science phenomena.

EXAMINATION

The examination consists of two parts:

- 1) Learning memos (for each seminar)
- 2) Course paper

Both learning memos and the course paper should be uploaded to Canvas.

Learning Memos

Learning memos should be written for seminars 2-10 and consist of 3-pages (Times New Roman, 12pt. 1.5 line spacing) and should address the points outlined below.

- a) What is the overarching question(s) with which the theory presented in these readings is concerned?
- b) Please describe an empirical example of your own related to the theory (theories) the readings address.
- c) From the perspective of your dissertation, what is the most interesting thing about these readings?

You may address one text at a time or write about them all at once. You may also choose to focus on only two of the four assigned texts for each session.

Learning memos are due on Monday at 10.00 the week of each upcoming class, including the afternoon session of the first meeting.

You may choose to opt out of writing two learning memos, in total you must write seven out of nine memos to pass the course. When you are not planning to submit a memo, you must notify the course coordinators via email, by the latest at the time of the deadline for the memo you have chosen not to write.

Course Paper

You will create an individual course paper based on some of the theories used in the course. You are free to select any stream of theory/theories presented in the course. The course papers should be between 4000 - 5000 words (Times New Roman, 12pt. 1.5 line spacing) and are due Thursday December 13, 2024, 5 PM.

The papers will be presented and discussed on the final day of the course at a mini-conference. More details will be provided as the course progresses, but you should be prepared to both present your paper and be the discussant of the paper of a fellow student.

The course paper is intended to be of use for you in your dissertation work, and we hope you can get additional feedback on it from your supervisors after the course is completed.

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

All class sessions are compulsory, including the full final day. The compulsory attendance aims to facilitate your learning process as the seminars are our chance to discuss and debate, follow up on questions and any loose threads, prepare your course paper and really get to the core of the subject. All participation in the seminars is based on you preparing the learning memos in advance.

If you nevertheless miss a session, you will have to write a make-up assignment. The make-up assignment consists of a prolonged learning memo (double the size as the original one) per missed session. One missed full day will mean two prolonged learning memos. If you miss more than two individual sessions, you will not be able to complete the course.

You cannot opt out of writing a learning memo for a missed session.

SCHEDULE

Session Date	Seminar	Theme	Teacher
1/11 2024 10-12 ME453	<i>1</i>	<i>Introduction to organizational and institutional theory</i>	Zhanna Kravchenko, Noomi Weinryb
1/11 2024 13-15 MA318	<i>2</i>	<i>Neo-institutional theory</i>	Noomi Weinryb
8/11 2024 10-12 MC318	<i>3</i>	<i>Historical institutionalism</i>	Karin Borevi
8/11 2024 13-15 MA613	<i>4</i>	<i>A comparative perspective on institutional regimes</i>	Zhanna Kravchenko
15/11 2024 10-12 MA433	<i>5</i>	<i>Journalism and mediatization from an institutional perspective</i>	Kristina Riegert
15/11 2024 13-15 MA318	<i>6</i>	<i>Decisions - three perspectives</i>	Nils Brunsson
22/11 2024 10-12 MA613	<i>7</i>	<i>Discursive perspectives on institutions and organizations</i>	Per-Anders Svärd
22/11 2024 14-16 MA321	<i>8</i>	<i>Organization and gender</i>	Charlotte Holgersson
29/11 2024 10-12 ME358	<i>9</i>	<i>Organizing Representative Democracy - Political Parties and the State</i>	Nicholas Aylott
29/11 2024 13-15 ME358	<i>10</i>	<i>Social movements</i>	Magnus Wennerhag
17/12 2024 10-17 MC235 MC238	<i>11</i>	<i>Presentation of course paper</i>	Zhanna Kravchenko, Noomi Weinryb

READINGS (If the texts are not in chronological or alphabetical order, it is because you are advised to read them in the assigned order.)

Seminar 2: Neo-institutional theory

- Meyer, J. W. & Rowan, B. (1977). Institutionalized organizations: Formal structure as myth and ceremony. *American Journal of Sociology*, 340–363, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/2778293>.

- DiMaggio, P. & Powell, W. W. (1983). The iron cage revisited: Collective rationality and institutional isomorphism in organizational fields. *American Sociological Review*, 48(2), 147–160, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/2095101>.
- Sahlin, K. & Wedlin, L. (2008). Circulating ideas: Imitation, translation and editing. *The Sage Handbook of Organizational Institutionalism*, 218, 242.
- Oliver, C. (1991). Strategic responses to institutional processes. *Academy of management review*, 16(1), 145-179. <https://doi.org/10.5465/amr.1991.4279002>

Seminar 3: Historical institutionalism

- Capoccia, G., & Kelemen, R. (2007). The study of critical junctures: Theory, narrative, and counterfactuals in historical institutionalism. *World Politics*, 59(3), 341–369, <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0043887100020852>.
- Pierson, Paul (2000). Increasing returns, path dependence, and the study of politics. *American Political Science Review*, 94: 251–267, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/2586011>.
- Schmidt, V. A. (2011) Speaking of change: why discourse is key to the dynamics of policy transformation. *Critical Policy Studies*, 5:2, 106–126, <https://doi.org/10.1080/19460171.2011.576520>.
- Thelen, K. (1999). Historical institutionalism in comparative politics. *Annual Review of Political Science*, 2, 369–404, <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev.polisci.2.1.369>.

Seminar 4: A comparative perspective on institutional regimes

- van Oorschot, W. and Arts, W. 2005. The social capital of European welfare states: the crowding out hypothesis revisited. *Journal of European Social Policy*, 15(1), 05–26, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0958928705049159>.
- Esping-Andersen, G. (1990). *The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism*, Princeton, N.J. Princeton University Press Chapter 1 “The three political economies of the welfare state”.
- Olsen, G. and O’Connor, J. 1998. Power Resource Theory and the Welfare State. A Critical Approach, “Introduction. Understanding the welfare state: Power Resource Theory and its critics”, pp. 3–33.
- Lewis, J. (1992). Gender and the development of welfare regimes. *Journal of European Social Policy*, 2(3), 159–173, <https://doi.org/10.1177/095892879200200301>.

Seminar 5: Journalism and mediatization from an institutional perspective

- Strömbäck, J. (2014). Mediatization of politics: Toward a conceptual framework for comparative research. In *Sourcebook for Political Communication Research*. Routledge, pp. 389–404.
- Schudson, M. (2002). The news media as political institutions. *Annual Review of Political Science* 5(1), 249–269, <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev.polisci.5.111201.115816>.
- Lowrey, W. Journalism as Institution. *Journalism*, edited by Tim P. Vos, Berlin, Boston: De Gruyter Mouton, 2018, pp. 125–148, <https://doi.org/10.1515/9781501500084-007>.
- One more paper will be added.

Seminar 6: Decisions - three perspectives

- Brunsson, N. (1982). The irrationality of action and action rationality: decisions, ideologies and organizational actions. *Journal of Management Studies*, 19(1), 29–44, <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-6486.1982.tb00058.x>.
- Brunsson, N. (2007). Chapter 7 Organized hypocrisy. In *The consequences of decision-making*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

- Ahrne, G., & Brunsson, N. (2011). Organization outside organizations: The significance of partial organization. *Organization*, 18(1), 83-104. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1350508410376256>.
- March, J.G. (1991). How decisions happen in organizations. *Human-Computer Interaction*, 6: 95–117.

Seminar 7: Discursive perspectives on institutions and organizations

- Bacchi, C. & Rönblom, M. (2014). Feminist discursive institutionalism – a poststructural alternative. *NORA - Nordic Journal of Feminist and Gender Research*, 22(3), pp. 170–186, doi: [10.1080/08038740.2013.864701](https://doi.org/10.1080/08038740.2013.864701).
- Boswell, C. & Hampshire, J. (2017). Ideas and agency in immigration policy: A discursive institutionalist approach. *European Journal of Political Research*, 56(1), pp. 133–150, doi: [doi:10.1111/1475-6765.12170](https://doi.org/10.1111/1475-6765.12170).
- Glynos, J. & Howarth, D. (2008). Critical explanation in social science: A logics approach. *Swiss Journal of Sociology*, 34(1), pp. 5–35.
- Schmidt, V. A. (2010). Taking ideas and discourse seriously: Explaining change through discursive institutionalism as the fourth ‘new institutionalism’. *European Political Science Review*, 2(1), pp. 1–25, doi: [10.1017/S175577390999021X](https://doi.org/10.1017/S175577390999021X).

Seminar 8: Organization and gender

- Acker, J. (1990). Hierarchies, jobs, bodies: A theory of gendered organizations. *Gender & Society*, 4(2), 139–158, <https://doi.org/10.1177/089124390004002002>.
- Acker, J. (2006). Inequality regimes: Gender, class, and race in organizations. *Gender & society*, 20(4), 441-464.
- Calás, M. B., & Smircich, L. (2006). 1.8 From the ‘woman’s point of view’ ten years later: Towards a feminist organization studies. *The Sage handbook of organization studies*, 284-347.
- Holvino, E. (2010). Intersections: The simultaneity of race, gender and class in organization studies. *Gender, Work & Organization*, 17(3), 248-277.

Seminar 9: Organizing Representative Democracy - Political Parties and the State

- Biezen, I. van (2004). Political parties as public utilities. *Party Politics*, 10(6), 701–22, <https://doi.org/10.1177/1354068804046914>.
- Katz, R. S. (2022). The cartel party - The end of democratic party evolution? *Irish Political Studies*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/07907184.2022.2043084>.
- Katz, R. S., & Mair, P. (1995). Changing models of party organization and party democracy: The emergence of the cartel party. *Party Politics*, 1:1, 5–28, <https://doi.org/10.1177/1354068895001001001>.
- Kitschelt, H. (2000). Citizens, politicians, and party cartellization: Political representation and state failure in post-industrial democracies. *European Journal of Political Research*, 37, 149–79, <https://doi.org/10.1111/1475-6765.00508>.

Seminar 10: Social movements

- Tarrow, Sidney G. (2022). *Power in movement: Social movements and contentious politics*. Revised and updated fourth edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. To read: “Introduction” (pp. 1–21) and “Cycles of Contention” (pp. 193–210).
- della Porta, Donatella & Mario Diani (2020). *Social movements: An introduction*. Third edition. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell. To read: “Eventful protest” (pp. 161–187) and “Political opportunities for social movements” (pp. 197–231).

- den Hond, Frank, Frank G.A. de Bakker, & Nikolai Smith (2015). “Social Movements and Organizational Analysis”, pp. 291–305 in Donatella della Porta & Mario Diani (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Social Movements*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Wennerhag, Magnus & Anders Hylmö (2022). “Social class and environmental movements”, pp. 355–373 in Maria Grasso & Marco Giugni (Eds.). *The Routledge Handbook of Environmental Movements*. London: Routledge.