

Fashion Consumer Behaviour Konsumentbeteende i modesektorn

7.5 credits

Ladok Code: 52KM01

Version: 6.1

Established by: Committee for Education in Business and Working Life 2017-06-14

Valid from: Autumn 2017

Education Cycle: Second cycle

Main Field of Study (Progressive Specialisation): Fashion Management (A1F)

Disciplinary Domain: Social sciences

Prerequisites: Bachelor of Science/Arts degree in textile technology, textile economics, corporate economics, industrial economics, technology, media or design, plus English B in the Swedish Upper Secondary School or equivalent and at least 45 approved credits from the first year of the educational program.

Subject Area: Leadership, Organisation and Management

Grading Scale: ECTS-credits

Content

The course deals with classical and contemporary perspectives within the social science field of consumer behavior at an advanced level. These perspectives are discussed throughout the course in relation to fashion and how fashion as a phenomenon has been treated in the social sciences. The contemporary fashion sector and market communication in this field is treated and discussed in relation to consumer behavior. The course contains practical exercises in collecting empirical material for analyzing consumer behavior and reflections on possible applications in fashion business development. The course deals with established theories and methods used today in the field of consumer behavior to describe and analyze following dimensions:

- Consumption patterns on a societal level.
- The individual as a consumer.
- Cultural aspects of consumption.
- Relationships between consumption and production that shape everyday practices.
- Issues of societal development in terms of social and ecological sustainability in relation to the dimensions above.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- 1.1 describe the theoretical and methodological developments in Consumer behaviour as field of knowledge,
- 1.2 account for accepted theoretical explanatory models in this field of knowledge – regarding product preferences and use of products, and
- 1.3 explain scientific arguments for different methods of collecting and analysing empirical material about consumers and their behaviours,

Skills and abilities

- 2.1 motivate and collect empirical material for analysis in relation to delimited research questions regarding some particular consumer behaviour,
- 2.2 formulate relevant research questions regarding consumers and consumption that illustrate theoretical and methodological knowledge in Consumer behaviour,

Judgment and approach

- 3.1 evaluate potential business benefits of consumer insights about a company's products,
- 3.2 with support in the course literature – problematize different relationships between the dominant theories of this field of knowledge and possible application of research results within corporate marketing practices, as well as

3.3 with support in relevant theories and previous research – problematize possibilities and limitations regarding consumers' abilities to take market-based responsibility for economic, social and ecological sustainable development.

Forms of Teaching

Teaching in the course consists of lectures, seminars, workshops and supervision.

Language of instruction and teaching is English.

Forms of Examination

The course is examined through a project work (conducted and reported in group) and by means of an individual written exam (three separate occasion during the course):

Project assignment: Oral presentation (group) with documentation.

Learning goals: 1.3, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1 och 3.2

Credits (hp): 3,0

Grading scale: U/G

Students who receive "not passed" on the project assignment will be asked for an additional written assignment as supplement.

Exam: individual written home exam

Learning goals: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 3.2, 3.3

Credits (hp): 4,5

Grading scale: A-F

Students who receive "not passed" on the individual written home exam, as a whole, will be asked for an additional written assignment as supplement.

For the grade E on full course, E is required for the individual exam and an approved project assignment (G). The individual written exam is given throughout the course as three different essays (three different occasions and one question/essay at each occasion). Its total score (max 30) determines the individual grade on the full course (A-F).

Student rights and obligations at examination are in accordance with guidelines and rules for the University of Borås.

Literature and Other Teaching Materials

Books

Ekström K. M., Ottosson M. & Parment A. (2017). Consumer behavior classical and contemporary perspectives. Lund: Studentlitteratur

Kawamura, Yuniya (2005). Fashion-ology: an introduction to fashion studies. Oxford: Berg

Articles

Ajzen, I. & Fishbein, M (1977) Attitude-Behavior Relations: A Theoretical Analysis and Review of Empirical Research, Psychological Bulletin 84 (5), 888-918

McCracken, G. (1986) Culture and consumption: A theoretical account of the structure and movement of the cultural meaning of consumer goods. Journal of consumer research, 13, pp.71-84

Murray, Jeff B. (2002) The Politics of Consumption: A Re-Inquiry on Thompson and Haytko's (1997) "Speaking of Fashion". Journal of Consumer Research, vol 29 (December)

Sirgy, Joseph M. (1982), Self-Concept in Consumer Behavior: A critical Review, Journal of Consumer Research, 9(3), 287-300.

Thompson, Craig J. and Haytko, Diana L. (1997) Speaking of Fashion: Consumers' Uses of Fashion Discourses and the Appropriation of Countervailing Cultural Meanings. Journal of Consumer Research. Vol 24 (June) pp. 15-42

Student Influence and Evaluation

The course is evaluated in accordance with current guidelines for course evaluations at the University of Borås, where students' views will be gathered.

The course evaluation report is published and returned to participating and prospective students in accordance with the above-mentioned guidelines, and underlies the future development of courses and education programs.

The coordinating teacher is responsible for the implementation of the course evaluation as described above.

Miscellaneous

The course is offered in the Business Informatics program – International Marketing and IT (IMIT) – and as a separate course at bachelor level.

The course syllabus in Swedish is the official binding document.