

Ethics in the textile value chain

Etik i den textila värdekedjan

1.5 credits

1.5 högskolepoäng

Ladok Code: AE2EV1

Version: 3.0

Established by: Committee for Education in Business and Working Life 2022-09-21

Valid from: Autumn 2022

Education Cycle: Second cycle

Main Field of Study (Progressive Specialisation): Textile Management (G2F)

Disciplinary Domain: Social sciences

Prerequisites: Admitted to Master Program in Textile Technology, Textile Management or Equivalent. Furthermore, knowledge in English equivalent to English 6.

Subject Area: Leadership, Organisation and Management

Grading Scale: Seven-degree grading scale (A-F)

Content

The course deals with crucial business ethics issues in the apparel and textile industry with focus on gender equality, taking global development of textile value chains as the context in which these issues arise and are managed. Gender related issues are discussed in relation to foundational concepts of business ethics, such as diversity, equal treatment and inclusion. Key areas of consideration include equal pay, working and living conditions, workplace treatment, women's representation and leadership. Furthermore, the course intends to highlight relevant initiatives and approaches to successfully address disadvantaged and underrepresented groups, and discuss how these practices can promote sustainable development and innovation in the textile sector.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course the student should be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- 1.1 Explain impacts of global value chains on gender equality,
- 1.2 Discuss key aspects of equality issues in the textile and apparel industry, such as equal pay, working and living conditions, working environment, women's representation and leadership,
- 1.3 Describe examples of good practices (e.g. policies, approaches and initiatives) for improving gender equality,

Skills and abilities

- 2.1 Analyze practices in the textile and apparel industry from the gender and value chain perspective,
- 2.2 Formulate suggestions for promoting gender equality in the textile value chain,
- 2.3 Using the course literature, discuss business approaches and challenges for addressing gender equality in the global textile value chain,

Judgement and approach

- 3.1 Using gender and value chain perspectives, critically reflect on the implications of tackling gender gaps for promoting sustainable development and innovation in the textile and apparel industry.

Forms of Teaching

Teaching comprises of lectures, tutoring sessions and final seminar.

The language of instruction is English.

Forms of Examination

Course examination consists of the following parts :

Examination: individual written exam

Learning outcomes: 1.1 - 1.3

Credits: 1,0

Grade: A-F

Project work: visual and oral group project presentation

Learning outcomes: 2.1 - 2.3, 3.1

Credits: 0,5

Grade: Pass/Fail

The final course grade is set according to the A-F scale and is determined by the grade on the individual written examination. Students must pass all examinations in order to complete the course.

If the student has received a decision/recommendation regarding special pedagogical support from the University of Borås due to disability or special needs, the examiner has the right to make accommodations when it comes to examination. The examiner must, based on the objectives of the course syllabus, determine whether the examination can be adapted in accordance with the decision/recommendation.

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

Literature and Other Teaching Materials

Barrientos, S. and Pallangyo, C. (2018). *Global Value Chain Policy Series*. Gender. Geneva: World Economic Forum.

Hoffner, L.A. (2022). *Promising practices, experiences and lessons learned in eliminating gender inequality in the garment sector in Asia*. Thailand: International Labour Organization.

Silvander, J. (2013). *Gender equality in global value chains and the role of Aid for Trade in promoting gender equality and women's employment in developing countries*. Helsinki: Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland.

A selection of additional literature can be included in the course (maximum 150 pages).

Student Influence and Evaluation

The course is evaluated in accordance with current guidelines for course evaluations at the University of Borås in which students' views are to be gathered. The course evaluation report is published and returned to participating and prospective students in accordance with the above-mentioned guidelines, and will be taken into consideration in the future development of courses and education programmes. Course coordinators are responsible for ensuring that the evaluations are conducted as described above.

Miscellaneous

This course is intended for students at the Master Program in Textile Technology and Engineering.

This syllabus is a translation from the Swedish original.