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Örebro University
Dept. of ESI/Informatics
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Syllabus for International Master in eGovernment

For students starting fall 2007

YEAR 1

E-government, 7,5 ECTS

The public sector is today one of the most important employers for IT professionals. Despite this are many IT educations related only to the private sector. This course meets this competence need by preparing you for the specific problems related to IT within in the public sector. You will become familiar with the demands on the public sector in terms of integration, efficiency, integrity, and availability. Increased IT use within the public sector influences the citizen and their possibility for participation. The course will therefore include subject areas such as dialogues, consultations, e-voting, and community networks. The teaching is in forms of lectures and practical work, which will provide you with a sound base for IT related work in the public sector.

IT Systems Requirements and Evaluation, 7,5 ECTS

IT systems in the public sector are, as in many other areas, seen as very important for the organization. The advocates put forward IT systems as tools for increased efficiency, democratization, and improve the quality of the public sector's services. But how does one know that the IT systems that are developed or procured support the organization? One way of improving the prospect for introducing valuable IT systems is by having knowledge about the needs of the organization. And one another important, but often neglected area that provides knowledge about the role of IT systems in organizations, is evaluation. After completed the course *IT systems Requirements and Evaluation*, you have improved your possibility to analyze and value the requirements of IT systems, as well as improved your capability to evaluate IT systems in use.

Philosophy of science, 7,5 ECTS

The course aims at developing a critical and reflecting perspective on knowledge development by knowledge about old and new schools and central and fundamental problems in the field of Philosophy of Science.

Politics and Administration in a Changing World, 7,5 ECTS

The purpose of this course is to contribute to basic knowledge in how politics and administration work in a changing world characterised by globalisation and digitalisation. At the end of the course the student should be familiar with the national and international development within the field as well as being able to analysing how important trends of today influences politics and public administration.

Research methods, 7,5 ECTS

After completing the course "Research methods", the students will have knowledge about qualitative and quantitative research methods within the field of Informatics. The students will during the course demonstrate their ability to use these methods.

ICT based communication, 7,5 ECTS

Public society is in many countries and areas built on information- and communication. This course focuses on the use of ICT in the public sector and you will learn how to design and handle them. As citizens have the right to public information there are high demands on usability and availability, which requires that you as an IT professional have knowledge about these subject areas. Related to this are the political and democratic agendas. These and related questions will be discussed and analyzed during the course. The teaching is to a large part constructed around practical work, which will prepare you for similar challenges in your professional life.

eGovernment project, 15 ECTS

An eGovernment project means using scientific knowledge to solve a current eGovernment problem in cooperation with an actor in eGovernment. The problem shall be related to the scientific literature as well as to the situation of the actor. The solution shall be based on scientific methods and be presented during a seminar and in a scientific article as well as in an "executive summary" for practitioners in the area.

YEAR 2**Academic writing, 7,5 ECTS**

After completing the course "Academic writing", the students will have obtained the basic skills needed for reading, writing, and presenting scientific work within Informatics. This includes guidelines on how to structure scientific texts, as well as exercises on how to critically read and analyse scientific texts. This course will contribute to develop the students' ability to read and write scientific work (journal papers, scientific reports, and monographs).

Designed ICT-communication, 7,5 ECTS

After completing the course "Designed ICT-communication", the students will have developed and understanding about public relations and organizational communication. This includes the theoretical grounds, as well as applied forms of strategic communication. The content of the course will focus ICT (information- and communication technologies) within the public sector.

Privacy and Security, 7,5 ECTS

Information security is an interesting, exciting, and current subject. Information and knowledge is very important areas in the society of today, and at the same time is more and more information being handled by information- and communication technologies (ICT). Information and ICT are important assets in businesses, the public sector, and in society in general. The course *Privacy and Security* focuses legal and security aspects relevant for the use of ICT within the public sector. Information security is studied from an organisational as well as citizen perspective.

Contemporary research, 7,5 ECTS

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subject areas. Related to this are the political and democratic agendas. These and related questions will be discussed and analyzed during the course. The teaching is to a large part constructed around practical work, which will prepare you for similar challenges in your professional life.

Team Work and Project Management, 7,5 ECTS

IT projects come in many different shapes. Some examples are development, deployment and maintenance projects. The common ground for these types of project is that they often have complex characteristics. Subsequently, with complexity follows demand on team members as well as used processes. This course aims at creating a theoretical and practical understanding for the interplay of project members in IT projects and the applied processes. Furthermore, the course focuses on project planning, realization and evaluation and their relationships. The course is based on practical exercises where you have the opportunity to study how project goals are created, communicated and changed during a project's lifecycle and how the actions affect teamwork.

Thesis, 15 ECTS

After completing this course, the students will have developed a deep understanding about how to conduct scientific work. This includes knowledge about research methods, theory used within the area, as well as disciplinary knowledge. This ability will be demonstrated through the student's ability to carry out independent research within the area of eGovernment.

Knowledge management, 7,5 ECTS

The aim of the course is to give theoretical knowledge and practical skills about knowledge management, i.e. how knowledge in organisations is acquired, created, stored, shared, disseminated and used. A special focus is on eGovernment. The aim is also to understand how information and communication technologies can support knowledge management in organisations. The aim is also to get acquainted with different knowledge management solutions in order to identify situations appropriate for developing knowledge management systems.