# Dialogues on Corporate Responsibility in Global Economy

SYLLABUS - 2019

#### Instructors' contact information

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## 1. OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the course is to learn how in-depth dialogue can help us to understand and deal with diverse opinions and conflicting interests related to sustainable organizing. During the course the students will learn what is (and what is not) dialogue, and further, the students will learn skills enabling them to better understand their own and others' thinking and behavior, and to act and speak in a more dialogic way. In addition, the participants will learn self-reflexivity and facilitation of dialogues.

This course seeks participants who are willing to challenge their perspectives and ways of conversing with themselves and others. We invite you to engage in a deeper dialogue that seeks to transform the way you and others are connected to issues that are of importance in the societies we live in. Thus, you will not just learn about sustainable organizing, but also learn to think in constructive ways and act towards increasing responsibility in the economic, societal and environmental spheres.

## 2. CONTENT

This course is a platform for dialogic learning. The course builds on the existing understandings and experiences of the participants. These are complemented with relevant literature on the key themes of the course. During the course you will engage in reading, talking, listening, writing, presenting and reflecting. We will practice dialogue through methods such as listening and voicing exercises, reflective writing, group works, and finally through practicing open dialogue. We will together deepen our understanding of themes such as the global economy, sustainable development, economic systems, forms of economic organizing, responsibility, politics and discourse. Towards the end of the course, the students will learn to take responsibility for facilitating dialogues.

Participating in this course requires being present in ten out of eleven sessions, active engagement in and preparation for the course sessions and group works, and writing reflection papers.

#### 3. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will learn to demonstrate the following knowledge:

- Be able to explain some of the key concepts and approaches related to sustainable organizing e.g. Corporation, Responsibility, Sustainability, Economy, Markets – and their linkages with each other.
- Will be able to recognize the roles of various societal actors (civil society, corporations, the state, and people) in forming and reproducing dominant as well as marginal social constructions of the key concepts, approaches and models.
- Be able to analyze the effects that different conceptualizations and meanings of the key concepts have
  on the way Sustainable Organizing is (or is not) practiced.

#### Students will develop the following skills:

- Take responsibility to listen to self and others, speak openly and genuinely, and respect other human beings
- Be able to engage in an open dialogue and differentiate dialogue from other forms of conversation
- Know how to facilitate dialogue to deepen collective learning

#### 4. STUDY AND IMPLEMENTATION METHODS

## Pre-Assignments

- Write a motivation letter: Please send a brief letter (at maximum half a page long) to both teachers
  via email (galina.kallio@gmail.com and timo@jarvensivu.fi) latest by Friday, April 5th, 2019. Please
  answer at least these two questions in the letter: Who are you and why do you want to attend this
  course?
- Attend the personal interview before acceptance to the course: Short interviews will be held on Wednesday, April 10th, and Friday, April 12th, 2019. Please book the time for your 10-15 minute interview latest by Friday, April 5th, 2019, via this link: https://goo.gl/wRTqp3
- 3. Prepare for the course by doing the pre-assignments (by Monday, April 15th 2019):
  - Watch three short introductory videos:
    - 1) https://youtu.be/TGAeCsq48bE
    - 2) https://voutu.be/w5YuObChM6U
    - 3) https://youtu.be/yWHhjqzqZcc
  - Read the following articles on dialogue and on CSR. All the articles can be located through Google Scholar. In case you have trouble locating the articles through Google Scholar, please check the tips given in the following link <a href="http://libguides.aalto.fi/e-resourcelinking/google-scholar">http://libguides.aalto.fi/e-resourcelinking/google-scholar</a>
    - . Bohm, D., Factor, D., and Garrett, P. (1991), Dialogue, A Proposal.
    - Isaacs, W. (1993). Taking Flight: Dialogue, Collective Thinking, and Organizational Learning. Organizational Dynamics. 22 (2), 24-39.
    - Banerjee, S. B. (2008). Corporate social responsibility: The good, the bad and the ugly. Critical Sociology, 34(1), 51-79.
    - Moore, G. (1999). Corporate moral agency: Review and implications. Journal of Business Ethics, 21(4), 329-343.
    - Fourcade, M., & Healy, K. (2007). Moral views of market society. Annu. Rev. Sociol., 33, 285-311.

 Scherer & Palazzo (2007), Toward a Political Conception of Corporate Responsibility: Business and Society Seen from a Habermasian Perpective. Academy of Management Review, 32(4), 1096-1120.

Studying during the course is based on active preparations and engagement in the class sessions, and demonstration of learned knowledge and skills:

- Participation in the class sessions (9 out of 10 class sessions are required to pass the course)
- Reflection papers (Five reflection papers, each covering two sessions, and final reflection paper. 6
  reflection papers in total)
- Two group works.
- Maximum 25 students will be able to participate.

## 5. ASSESSMENT CRITERIA AND EVALUATION SCALE

Assessment and grading are based on active preparation for and engagement in the sessions, and demonstration of learned knowledge and skills.

- Preparation for and participation in the class sessions, 30% of the grade.
  - o Participation in 9 (out of 10) class sessions is required to pass the course.
  - Assessment of preparation and engagement through a questionnaire, twice during the course. Selfevaluation and teacher-evaluation (1/2 each).
- Reflection papers, 40 % of the grade.
  - Five reflection papers, each covering two sessions, and final reflection paper. 6 reflection papers in total.
- Group works, 30% of the grade
  - o 1/3 self-evaluation, 1/3 peer-evaluation and 1/3 teacher-evaluation.

Evaluation scale from 1-5 will be used.

# 6. COURSE WORKLOAD

Classroom hours	40h
Class preparation (pre-assignments)	50h
Reflection papers	33h
Group work 1 and 2	12h + 25h
Total	160h (6 op)

## 7. LEARNING MATERIAL

Theory-based learning material is all included in the pre-assignments (see above #4). Additional readings and other material (videos, short readings) can be provided based on learning needs arising in the dialogues during the course.

#### 8. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please contact the teachers Galina Kallio (<a href="mailto:galina.kallio@gmail.com">galina.kallio@gmail.com</a>) and Timo Järvensivu (timo@jarvensivu.fi).

# COURSE SCHEDULE: sessions, exercises, and reflection papers

Session #1: Introduction - Monday 15.4.2019 - 13.15-16.00

- Readings: read all six articles listed in the pre-readings before the first session
- · Exercise: Kick off dialogue

Session #2: Dialogue - Wednesday 17.4.2019 - 13.15-16.00

- Exercise: Peace pipe
- · Skills: Suspending

# 1st reflection paper due date (reflection on sessions #1 and #2) Tuesday 23.4.2019

Session #3: Corporation - Wednesday 24.4.2019 - 13.15-16.00

- · Exercise: Peace pipe, advanced
- · Skills: Listening and voicing

Session #4: Responsibility - Friday 26.4.2019 - 13.15-16.00

- Exercise: Humble inquiry
- · Skills: Active listening, asking open questions

#### 2nd reflection paper due date (reflection on sessions #3 and #4) Thursday 2.5.2019

Session #5: Economy - Monday 29.4.2019 - 13.15-16.00

- Exercise: Open dialogue + Facilitation roles
- Skills: Observing dialogue process and content
- Feedback on 1st reflection paper

Session #6: Markets & Society - Friday 3.5.2019 - 13.15-16.00

- Exercise: Humble inquiry, advanced
- · Skills: Asking questions to separate observations, assumptions, opinions etc

# 3rd reflection paper due date (reflection on sessions #5 and #6) Wednesday 8.5.2019

Session #7: Dialogue boot-camp - Monday 6.5.2019 - 09.00-16.00 (Notice timing - whole day boot camp)

- · Exercise: Collective facilitation, open dialogue
- Skills: Observing dialogue process and content, making interventions, practicing reflexivity
- · Feedback on 2nd reflection paper

Session #8: Group work presentations - Friday 10.5.2019 - 13.15-16.00

• Group work #1: "A new course name". Presenting outcomes of the groupwork

# 4th reflection paper due date (reflection on sessions #7 and #8) Tuesday 14.5.2019

Session #9: Recap - Monday 13.5.2019 - 13.15-16.00

Recap conversation

• Feedback on 3rd reflection paper

Session #10: Final dialogues – Wednesday 15.5.2019 – 13.15-17.00 (notice timingl)

• Group work #2: "Final dialogues on corporate responsibility in global economy - what is it, really?"

Final (5th) reflection paper due by Monday 25.2.2018. The final reflection paper includes reflection on the whole course, learning on the content and process.