# Business organisation

## Prof. Franca Cantoni

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course provides students with useful elements to understand the different aspects and methods of planning and functioning of the business system organisation by developing their ability to read the phenomena of the dynamics and processes of organisational change.

At the end of the course, students will be familiar with the models and tools for strategic business management and will have developed the ability to analyse and evaluate competitive strategies. They will also be able to demonstrate operational knowledge and analyse different assets and operating modes of a business organisation.

***COURSE CONTENT***

* The organisation of the business system
* The contingent vision of the organisational system
* Organisational boundary choices
* Contextual dimensions (environment, technology, dimensions and life cycle, strategy, culture) and structural dimensions (formalisation, specialisation, hierarchy, centralisation, professionalism, personnel indicators).
* Fundamental elements of macro and micro-organisational planning
* Interorganisational relations

***READING LIST***

R.L. DAFT, Organizzazione Aziendale, Maggioli Ed., 2021, seventh ed.

Chapter 1 – Organisations and organisational planning

Chapter 2 – Strategy, organisational planning, and effectiveness

Chapter 3 – Fundamental elements of the organisational structure

Chapter 4 – The external environment

Chapter 8 – Organisational planning for manufacturing technologies and services

Chapter 10 – Organisational dimensions, life cycle and decline (pg. 381-395)

Chapter 11 – Organisational culture and control

***TEACHING METHOD***

In addition to frontal lectures and to facilitate learning, the course includes a series of meetings with various significant companies and with experts and professionals in the dynamics of innovation and organisational change. The main objective is to allow the consolidation of the notions and theoretical aspects learnt by favouring the comparison with managers and entrepreneurs who manage and solve organisational problems on a daily basis.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The exam methods are the same for attending and non-attending students. Attendance will not be recorded but the exam questions will focus on topics specifically addressed in the classroom and on professionals’ experience. Students are required to prepare on the listed textbook using the slides and notes as supplementary material and not as a substitute for the textbooks.

The exam consists of a test with 27 multiple-choice questions where a score of 1/30 is assigned for each correct answer. The test also includes an open-ended but guided question where the maximum score assigned can be equal to 5/30.

More specifically, the assessment of the answers to the closed-ended questions is aimed at understanding the students’ mastery of the key concepts, the correctness of the technical language used, and their ability to reason on subject-related topics, while the answer to the open-ended question (assessed in terms of completeness and in-depth analysis, consistency of the topics provided, appropriateness of the language used, ability to make connections) is aimed at the application of the theory learnt in class to a practical case or to the reasoned reading of expert’s testimonies given in the classroom.

The duration of the exam is 60 minutes.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Given the introductory nature of the course, there are no content-related prerequisites for attending it. Attendance is not compulsory but is recommended.

Information on office hours available on the teacher's personal page at <http://docenti.unicatt.it/>