## **STUDY GUIDE**

### **Business Organizational Models** organized by University of Catania

1. IDENTIFYING DATA	
Course name	Business Organizational Models
Coordinating university	UniCT
Course discipline	Not applicable
Study level	PhD

Number of ECTS credits allocated	1 ECTS
Mode of delivery	self-study (recorded sessions)
Language of instruction	English
Delivery period	summer semester 2023/2024
Course dates	from April 1 to May 31
Precise schedule of the lecturers	Recorded sessions will be available from April 01 to May 31 Consultation meetings will be held on the TEAMS platform (link will be sent to PhD students) on the following days:  • April 11, 2024 (Thursday), 18:00-19:00  • May 16, 2024 (Thursday), 18:00-19:00
	Total workload is 25 hrs:  • 4 hrs of recorded lectures  • 2 hrs of consultation meetings  • 19 hrs of PhD student's own work
Keywords	Organization structure, Grouping criteria, Hierarchical and Flat Structures, Ansoff and Brandenburg elasticity model, Mintzberg model, Coordination mechanisms, Organization components, Organizational design parameters

Prerequisites and corequisites	English B2     Willingness to improve their research skills.
Number of PhD students that can attend the Course	30
Course inscription procedure(s)	Application Portal

2. CONTACT DETAILS		
Department	Dept. of Civil Engineering and Architecture – University of	
	Catania	
Name of lecturer	Professor Alessandro Ancarani, PhD	
e-mail	alessandro.ancarani@unict.it	
Short biography of lecturer	Alessandro Ancarani, earned his Ph.D. from the University of	
(optional)	Rome Tor Vergata and his MSc and BSc in engineering from	
	the University of Catania. He is the Head of the Management	
	Engineering Research Group at the University of Catania. He	
	was co-editor in chief of the Journal of Purchasing and Supply	
	Management (2010- 2015). He was editor in chief of the	











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Journal of Public Procurement (2018-2021). He was President of IPSERA in 2009-2012 and founding member of EDSI. His research interests are in the analysis of manufacturing location decisions, adoption of smart manufacturing technologies, intangibles in public service organizations, public procurement, and behavioral operations. He has published in leading journals such as British Journal of Management, International Journal of Production Economics, Journal of World Business, European Journal of Operational Research, and International Journal of Production & Operations Management.

#### 3. COURSE CONTENT

- 1. Definition of organization
- 2. Traditional model of Business Organizational Structures
  - A. Grouping criteria
  - B. Hierarchical vs Flat Structures
  - C. Functional Structure
  - D. Divisional Structure (Product/Market/Geographic)
  - E. Team based Structure
  - F. Matrix Structure
  - G. Network Structure
- 3. Organizational model by Ansoff and Brandenburg
  - A. Concept of elasticity
  - B. Typologies of organizational structures
- 4. Organizational model by Mintzberg
  - A. Coordination mechanisms
  - B. Organization components
  - C. Organizational design parameters
  - D. Typologies of organizational structures

#### 4. LEARNING OUTCOMES

A PhD student knows and understand how an organization is structured and how it works.

A PhD student can:

- understand that the organization structure needs to match the organization aim
- perceive the wide impact of different course of actions on the performance of the organizations
- plan the use of the resources available according to the final targets.

#### 5. OBJECTIVES

The course aims at helping PhD students to widen their perspective adding capabilities to develop their PhD project. The PhD students will learn how the organizations work and the reasons why different structures lead to excel in some performance over the others.











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### 6. COURSE ORGANISATION

### **LEARNING RESOURCES AND TOOLS**

slides - documents, videos and consultations

### PLANNED LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND TEACHING METHODS

Students are expected to watch the lectures available via MS-Teams. They can meet the lecturer to ask questions via Teams (two Q&A sessions have been planned).

### 7. ASSESSMENT METHODS, CRITERIA AND PERIOD

Formative assessment: A self-assessment test available via Teams.

Summative assessment: Presentation of organizational models in 10 slides.

### 8. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND TEACHING MATERIALS

**BASIC** 

Slides available on MS-Teams

**ADDITIONAL** 

Mintzberg, H. (1992). Structure in fives: Designing effective organizations. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.









