

## Philosophy of Science (BT1207)

### Content

This Philosophy of Science course not only addresses deeper philosophical questions of how scientific research as a human activity may track the truth about 'organizational reality', but also has the aim of providing a conceptual apparatus to understand and evaluate the assumptions and truth claims of the many different theories that exist in the field of management. Management is an interdisciplinary field, and therefore harbors different theories that explain management reality using different concepts and relying on very different assumptions. Sometimes theories in management even give incompatible accounts of the same phenomenon. For both researchers and future managers, it is important to be able to make a reasoned choice between the theories that apply to a specific phenomenon. This course not only seeks to provide students with the conceptual apparatus that is relevant in choosing between different theoretical perspectives, but also aims to develop the critical abilities of students to analyze and evaluate theories in management.

### Learning goals

The principal objective of this course is to equip students for evaluating and choosing between many different theories in the field of management. After this course, students will be able to:

- Evaluate the place of values in the Social Sciences.
- Evaluate critical argumentation with respect on major positions of science.
- Explain the difference between theories and concepts, and fact and empirical research.
- Explain the assumptions of theories in management and assess their scientific validity.
- Assess and discuss the extent to which social science bear on normative issues.