

Theory, theorizing and theoretical contribution 2 cr

3-day PhD course

June 8-10, 2015

Lappeenranta University of Technology, Finland

This course targets PhD students in their 2nd or 3rd year of studies. However, 1st year students are also welcome to attend.

The topics discussed in this course are:

- Theory (definitions and types)
- Criteria for evaluating theories
- Good theory
- Interesting theoretical research
- Theorizing (variables, constructs, relationships, construct clarity)
- Theoretical engagement
- Combining theories – why and how
- Theoretical contribution (transiting from ideas to theoretical contributions).

In order to attend, students need to study carefully and thoroughly a number of selected readings. This preparation will enable them to participate in and contribute to the workshop. In addition, prior to the workshop (DL = 8.6.), students will be required to submit a 2-page document that:

- (1) identifies the theory the student has chosen and how the decision was made;
- (2) explains why that particular theory (or combination of theories) is a tool that can help answer the research question(s); and
- (3) articulates a way to use that theory in an empirical study.

The document will be circulated to other course participants when group work takes place. The more thought-through this 2-pager is, the more likely the student will receive useful feedback.

Schedule: Mon 8.6. 14-18, Tue 9.6. 14-18, Wed 10.6. 14-18.

Place: LUT main building, room 4502.

Registration 1.6. to Pirkko.kangasmaki@lut.fi

Presenters: Prof Kenneth Husted & Prof Snejina Michailova

Kenneth Husted received his PhD degree from Copenhagen Business School, Denmark in 1998. Since 2005 he has been a Professor of Innovation and Research Management at The University of Auckland Business School, New Zealand. He has conducted PhD sessions at several universities in different countries. He has chaired the PhD Committee at his current department from 2008 to 2010 and was part of his Business School's PhD Committee. He is currently supervising nine PhD students.

Snejina Michailova received her PhD degree from Copenhagen Business School, Denmark in 1997. Since 2005 she has been a Professor of International Business at The University of Auckland Business School, New Zealand. She has conducted PhD sessions at several universities in various countries. She has chaired the PhD Committee at her current department (47 PhD students) from 2012 to 2014 and was part of her Business School's PhD Committee. She is currently supervising six PhD students.