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| Name Module | Studytour IBA & IEM |
| Language | English |
| Contact person | M.R. (Martin) Stienstra MSc |
| Specific prerequisites (regarding incoming exchange) | The minor is only accessible for IBA and IEM third year Bachelor students. Students need to fulfil the study progress requirements for minors. (This minor is not open for incoming exchange students) |
| Participating study | IBA & IEM |
| Starting block | M10 |

Theme

The minor gives students from the study programs International Business Administration (IBA) & Industrial Engineering and Management (IEM) the possibility to go abroad and to experience what it is to be active in an international context in their field of study programs. Students will visit e.g. companies, (governmental) institutions, universities and alike (from now on: companies) to study a theme which has been prepared before actually going abroad. The actual studytour normally takes 2 weeks during which around 15 companies are visited.

Content (including project)

The main goals of the minor are:

1. To gain international experience
2. To research a theme in the field of the student's study program by visiting companies where the students could go to and work for after completion of their study.

Goal number 1: one or more countries will be visited (from here: countries). The countries are chosen with the research theme in mind. Students will be taught about the difference with their home country at Macro, Meso and Micro level, including cultural differences. The political, economic and technological state of the countries will be discussed with a benchmark to the country of origin. Sector analyses will be executed before students go abroad to have a thorough understanding of the environment in which the companies are embedded. Also, the actual companies which will be visited are discussed in order to have a full understanding of what the companies do so that the focus during the visit can be exclusively on the research theme.

Goal number 2: before students go abroad, they are taught by staff members of the BMS faculty, normally also those staff members who will accompany the studytour abroad, in a field which will be the main focus of the research taking place during the stay in the foreign country. Examples of themes which were researched in the past are Lean manufacturing and HRM. In order to have a thorough understanding of what the research looks like in practise, students already perform research with similar companies in the Netherlands after learning about the actual theme. The students of IBA and IEM will work together to establish a cross-disciplinary approach of the theme. Tutorials on research skills will be part of the preparation phase which will be 7 weeks in total.

Learning goals

1. Knowledge: students have to obtain knowledge on the country and the theories around the theme which will be researched.
2. Comprehension: students should be able to discuss the theories and select the components which are of importance for the research abroad.
3. International experience: students should be able to apply the knowledge while being abroad and demonstrate a thorough understanding of the differences between their home country and the countries which are visited.
4. Analysis & synthesis: students should be able to design a research plan, collect data and analyse the data gathered regarding the theme.
5. Evaluation: after the studytour, while writing the final report in which research findings are reported, students should be able to evaluate the data gathered and assess its academic worth.

Educational forms

Assessments

The students will be assessed with a diverse range of tests. In the preparation phase, students will be assessed on learning goals 1 and 2. This will be done among others by peer reviewed reports and presentations. Assessment criteria will be made available before the start of the module. During and after the actual study tour learning goals 3, 4 and 5 will be tested. Reports drawn up during the tour, active participation of committee and participants and a final report will be the base for the assessment. The assessment criteria for the final report will be provided via Blackboard. The preparation phase will determine 40% of the grade. The actual project will account for 60%. How the different assessment components in the preparation phase will look like is decided by supervisors. If there are other assessments needed than peer reviewed reports and presentations supervisors will have that possibility. By default, only one of the preparation components can be an insufficient grade, but should be at least a five (5). It should be compensated with (an) other grade(s) in the preparation phase. The project should be at a minimum of 5,5 and cannot be compensated.

Other:

- Materials such as literature will be announced before the start of the module via Blackboard. In case books need to be bought this will be discussed with Stress.
- A planning will provided via Blackboard
- Students should attend all sessions