

IAG3920 Epistemology of research applied to the management of organisations

[15h+15h exercises]

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Language: French
Level: Third cycle

### Aims

A course in epistemology of research applied to the management of organisations should allow the students to be in possession of a critical theory of knowledge, when being applied to the management of organisations.

This objective is both theoretical and practical: on the theoretical side, it should allow them to understand how and why a "management science" has progressively being founded, and what are the values and limits of such a foundation; on the practical side, it aims at giving the students the reflexive and scientific background that is required to build up a Ph. D. thesis in the field of management.

### Main themes

In this context, this course includes the following steps:

- " to give an introduction to main concepts and trends in the domain of human sciences epistemology;
- empirism vs. idealism;
- the notion of "critics" (Kant, Popper, Marx, Nietzsche);
- positivism and neo-positivism;
- structuralism and systemic;
- phenomenology and hermeneutics;
- constructivism and management science.
- " to analyse different research programmes, concerning their ability to deal with collective or managerial action, in economy or sociology;
- " to extract from this process a critical analysis of rationality, as well as a definition of a scientific topic in the different areas covered by management science.

## Content and teaching methods

This course will be an opportunity to set up a dialogue between the students and the teacher concerning the above domain. In such a perspective, it will combine theoretical courses by the teacher, designed as frameworks for the reflection, with presentations of scientific articles by the students, designed as opportunities to launch collective discussion.

# Other information (prerequisite, evaluation (assessment methods), course materials recommended readings, ...)

Prerequisite: none

Evaluation: oral presentations (by group), individual written contribution (approx. 12 pages, to be joined to the final

graduation report)

Support: portfolio of readings (syllabus)

References : cf. support Pedagogic team : one teacher

### Programmes in which this activity is taught

**ECGE3DA/GE** Diplôme d'études approfondies en économie et gestion

(sciences de gestion)

## Version: 02/08/2006

# Other credits in programs

ECGE3DA/GE Diplôme d'études approfondies en économie et gestion

Mandatory