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Guidelines for the Business and  
Innovation Honours Programme  
Health, Aarhus University

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2017

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## 1. Introduction

A Business and Innovation Honours Programme targeting primarily medical students from the Faculty of Health, Aarhus University offers a new way of understanding and collaborating with the industry – combining traditional learning and training with innovation skills and real life examples and cases.

The purpose of the programme is to prepare talented young students for a career within the health care industry, through cooperative activities.

[The Ministerial Order on talent development](#) form the basis for the Business and Innovation Honours Programme. These rules and guidelines allow the university to offer extracurricular activities beyond the standard ECTS credits.

Talent development programmes are extracurricular activities at a very high level and with high demands on the student's competences and performance.

The Faculty Management has therefore approved the Business and Innovation Honours Programme as a talent development programme for primarily medical students at the Faculty of Health.

During the two years of the Business and Innovation Honours Programme, the student will gain broad insight into both theories and praxis in the perspective of innovation, product idea and development and business strategy, and will be challenged, both professionally and personally.

The programme runs concurrent with the student's ordinary study, and therefore gives the student a unique career advantage, as well as a graduation with distinction.

## 2. Outcome

A student who completes the Business and Innovation Honours Programme will gain great experience with innovation and business and will develop a strong professional network with lecturers and representatives from academia and the medical industry, both nationally and internationally.

A graduation with distinction is an acknowledged recognition of the extracurricular activities.

## 3. Requirements

To become a part of the Business and Innovation Honours Programme, the student must be highly motivated, professionally competent and eager to learn and achieve results. The student must have a genuine interest in health science, innovation and business development and be willing to challenge him/herself. Furthermore, good English language skills are required.

The student must have finished first and second semester primarily at medicine and be enrolled in a BA's degree programme at the Faculty of Health, Aarhus University.

The student is required to follow the ordinary study according to the study plan, and pass all exams timely. Furthermore medical students have priority to other students.

The Business and Innovation Honours Programme is an extracurricular activity, and the student is expected to spend some evenings, weekends and one to two weeks during the summer on the activities of programme, as well as the self-study and the individual project.

## 4. Application

Calls for application for enrolment are announced once a year with deadline end-August. The [open call](#) provides an application form, which must be completed by the student.

The application must include basic information about the candidate, a motivational statement describing the applicant's motivation for applying, as well as activities, experiences and results relevant to the programme. Furthermore, the applicant's CV and diploma or transcript of records must be included. The requirements are described in the [application guide](#). All documents must be in English, combined into one pdf-file and submitted by email to [rjlund@au.dk](mailto:rjlund@au.dk) before deadline.

The applications will be assessed by the Coordination Committee for the Business and Innovation Honours Programme based on the student's results, motivation and potential.

Please see the [application guide](#) for more information about the application and the mandatory documents.

If there are more qualified applicants than available positions in the programme, interviews will be held as part of the application process.

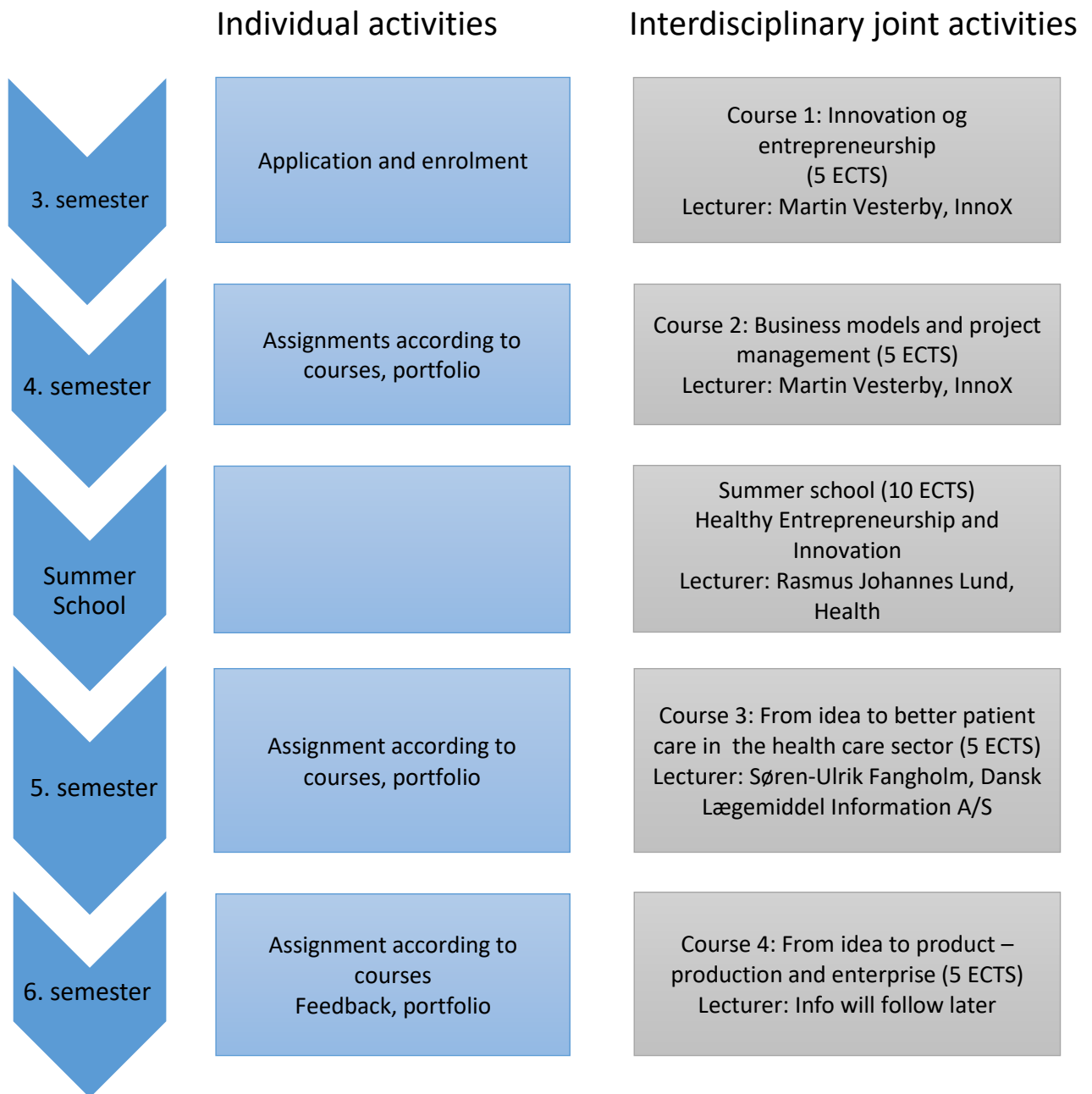
Applicants will get a response by the end of September, and will thereby be able to start the programme by 1 October.

## 5. Content and activities

The Business and Innovation Honours Programme consists of several different interdisciplinary activities, at a high academic level.

The activities in the programme equal 30 ECTS credits. All activities are placed outside of the ordinary study schedule.

# BA Business and Innovation Honours Programme



## **Workshops**

During the first semester, the programme focuses on developing the student's interdisciplinary competences. This is done through four courses, where the student is engaged and challenged to think differently and work together with peers across disciplines. The workshops encourages reflection and independent thinking.

The courses are built around scientific health issues, which can only be solved with input and participation from different disciplines. Through active participation from the student, aspects and methods are illustrated.

The purpose of the courses is to:

- Introduce the student to innovation and how to develop new products
- Train the student in working across disciplines
- Create a platform for scientific and innovative collaboration across fields of study
- Create a forum where the student can develop and meet like-minded students from other areas
- Contribute to building an innovative and interdisciplinary culture in collaboration with different representatives from the industry

## **Self-study**

It is essential that the students are able to relate to their own development and to achieve non-academic career competences, such as business understanding and team work focussing on innovative processes to grasp different challenges within the health care industry.

At the start of the Business and Innovation Honours Programme, the student will receive information about requirements, which will provide the students with knowledge regarding general competences. The student is expected to independently study literature and other relevant information and articles during the programme.

## **Summer school**

Between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> semester, a summer school will be held. The summer school will focus on innovation and entrepreneurship and how to develop new ideas and implementation. The summer school is also open for other students, both nationally and internationally.

The summer school corresponds to 5 ECTS credits, which equals 2 weeks of full time study. Content and form of the summer school will vary from year to year, and will be announced during spring.

## **Projects and mentors**

The Business and Innovation Honours Programme also focuses on developing the student's personal competences. One of the central elements of the programme is therefore securing the students development through supervision. A team of mentors will follow the students closely focusing on the business and innovation perspective.

## **Event**

As part of the Business and Innovation Honours Programme, the student must participate in different events like Medical Innovation Day and Match Making Day. The event can be academic

or social. The aim is to develop the student's professional and career competences through network.

## **6. Progression and absence**

Students enrolled in the Business and Innovation Honours Programme are expected to follow all activities in both their ordinary study and in the programme concurrently. Absence, lacking participation, failure to hand in assignments or delays in the ordinary study will lead to dismissal from the programme.

In case of absence due to illness or for other reasons, the student must ensure to obtain the missing ECTS credits, e.g. by attending the activity at a later point, or by attending a substituting activity. Other activities can only be approved by the Coordination Committee for the Honours Programme. The student must apply for a dispensation/exemption, by sending an application to the mail: [rjlund@au.dk](mailto:rjlund@au.dk).

## **7. Graduation with distinction**

Students who complete a Business and Innovation Honours Programme will graduate with distinction, and get a recognition on their BA's degree diploma.