



IK2214 Telecom Policies and Regulatory Principles 7.5 credits

Policy och regleringsprinciper för telekommunikation

This is a translation of the Swedish, legally binding, course syllabus.

Establishment

Course syllabus for IK2214 valid from Autumn 2007

Grading scale

A, B, C, D, E, FX, F

Education cycle

Second cycle

Main field of study

Specific prerequisites

Language of instruction

The language of instruction is specified in the course offering information in the course catalogue.

Intended learning outcomes

After the course, the participants are expected to be able to describe

- The general origin of the historical international situation, bilateral treaties growing into multilateral exchange of traffic. ITU origin and early development.
- The early national situation in a number of major countries. Understanding their various models in the light of differences in general administration and political conditions. Public vs. private monopolies.
- Different early control mechanisms, concessions and expansion requirements. Universal service requirements as a requirement for private monopolies.
- Political shelters, demands and restrictions on operators in the monopoly era up to two decades ago.
- Impact of general political change towards liberalisation of the sector, combined with the technology change after the semiconductor and optical fibre revolution.
- Bodies driving the change. Differences between the European and North American processes.
- Early adoption and countermeasures from incumbent operators as they were made subject to limited competition and interconnect.
- Models for forced access to facilities of the dominant operator. Local loop unbundling, LLUB, pricing principles like long range incremental cost, LRIC, etc. The essential facilities doctrine.
- Impact of new, disruptive services enabled by new technology. Mobile phones and the Internet emerging outside the defined scope of the narrow sector regulation applied to the vertically integrated telcos.
- The gradual shift towards general, technology independent regulation. From hard, sector specific detailed regulation to soft law with a focus on general competition aspects. The problems inherent in the time lag in policy making and regulation implementation. Pros and cons with different approaches.
- Policymakers at a disadvantage in a rapidly changing market driven by fast technology development. Laws as reflections of the established, not the new.

Course contents

Examination

- PRO2 - Project, 1.5 credits, grading scale: A, B, C, D, E, FX, F
- PRO1 - Project, 4.5 credits, grading scale: A, B, C, D, E, FX, F
- PRO3 - Project, 1.5 credits, grading scale: A, B, C, D, E, FX, F

Based on recommendation from KTH's coordinator for disabilities, the examiner will decide how to adapt an examination for students with documented disability.

The examiner may apply another examination format when re-examining individual students.

If the course is discontinued, students may request to be examined during the following two academic years.

Other requirements for final grade

The examination of this course is based on the quality of project specific deliverables and individual contributions.

The deliverables from each project team include a team-based project presented as a written report and an oral presentation; an opposition on another team's project; hosting of a seminar, including preparation and summary of the seminar.

The students will be graded based on two dimensions:

The quality of the project related deliverables described above

Individual contribution to the learning in the course, i.e., active participation during seminars and on the course-web

Keeping deadlines is considered as important in this course! If the deliverables for any reason would be posted late, the grade will be affected.

The grading process will involve the teachers and the teaching assistants.

Individual Contribution (1 p)

Team Project (3 p)

Presentation of the Project and opposition on another team's project (1 p)

Ethical approach

- All members of a group are responsible for the group's work.
- In any assessment, every student shall honestly disclose any help received and sources used.
- In an oral assessment, every student shall be able to present and answer questions about the entire assignment and solution.