



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Social Sciences

MESS47, Gender and Sustainability in Theory and Everyday Life, 7.5 credits

Genus och hållbarhet i teori och vardag, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Lund University Centre for Sustainability Studies on 2013-10-21 to be valid from 2014-08-31, autumn semester 2014.

General Information

The main field of study is *Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science*. The course constitutes a 3rd term elective (non-compulsory) course at LUMES, Lund University International Master's Programme in Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall be able to:

- demonstrate (orally and through writing) a deep understanding of the theoretical and ideological assumptions of different types of gender concepts and feminist approaches including their relevance for sustainability and sustainability research
- locate, evaluate and critically review gender dimensions in sustainability policies, initiatives and interventions
- identify and explain gender dimensions of various sustainability challenges and how they interact, in terms of impacts and responses, with the gender dynamics of everyday activities and practices
- perform a constructively critical analysis of relevant gender and sustainability phenomena/challenges in a systematic way using the key concepts acquired during the course as well as propose gender aware/gender sensitive alternatives

- apply skills in using mixed and integrated approaches in research, in particular in understanding feminist methods in relation to methodology and epistemology

Course content

The course discusses a range of theories, conceptual frameworks and approaches for analysing and understanding relations and interactions between gender and sustainability. Students will be introduced to the broad field of gender studies and to the central issues, key concepts and analytical tools in the current debates regarding inequalities, diversities and social change relevant for sustainability. The course draws on global, regional and local empirical examples to illustrate issues of how gender and sustainability interact. Specifically, the course will examine the following aspects or themes in gender and sustainability debates:

- the theoretical foundations of (and theories in) gender studies, feminism (from liberal to radical to postmodern feminism) and sustainability, their similarities, differences and interaction
- approaches (such as intersectionality) that help identify and locate gender and make gender dimensions visible in sustainability policies, initiatives and interventions and how they relate to wider social processes and sustainability challenges
- how methods (such as standpoint and mainstreaming), methodology and epistemology can be used to problematise and critically review everyday examples of the interaction between gender and sustainability

Course design

The course is comprised of lectures, seminars, group discussions, students' presentations, and individual assignments/papers. The seminars will focus on different themes that will be treated in depth. Students will analyse and present literature themselves. In each seminar, students will discuss and/or make oral and/or written presentations of the literature.

Seminars, presentations, and individual assignments are compulsory. Attendance at seminars is compulsory unless there are special reasons. An alternative form or date for compulsory components is offered to students who are not able to complete a compulsory component owing to circumstances beyond their control, e.g. accident, sudden illness or similar. This also applies to students who have missed classes because of activities as a student representative.

Assessment

Three opportunities for examination are offered in conjunction with the course: a first examination and two re-examinations. Within a year of the end of the course, two further reexaminations on the same course content are offered. After this, further re-examination opportunities are offered but in accordance with the current course syllabus.

Students who fail a test have the right to re-examination. If necessary, a second re-examination will be arranged at a later date. A student who has taken two examinations in a course or a part of a course without obtaining a pass grade is entitled to the nomination of another examiner, unless there are special reasons to the contrary. Students getting pass mark cannot re-take an exam or re-submit a paper

to get a higher grade.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Three, Four, Five.

The grades awarded in examinations are 5 - 4 - 3 - Fail. The highest grade is 5 and the lowest passing grade is 3. The grade for a non-passing result is Fail. The student's performance is assessed with reference to the learning outcomes of the course. The grade "5" denotes outstanding performance in *all* learning outcomes. The grade "4" signifies very good performance in *all* learning outcomes. To receive the grade "3", the student must obtain minimum criteria in fulfilling *all* course learning objectives. The grade of Fail signifies that the student has not fulfilled the learning outcomes of the course, or that additional work is required before the credit can be awarded.

Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course the student must have fulfilled course requirements of at least 40 higher education credits in the LUMES programme.

Further information

The syllabus was adopted by the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Lund University, on December 12, 2013.

Subcourses in MESS47, Gender and Sustainability in Theory and Everyday Life

Applies from H14

1301 Gender and Sustainability in Theory and Everyday Life, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Three, Four, Five