

MOSP50, Environment and Sustainable Development in the Middle East, 7.5 credits

*Mellanösternstudier: Miljö och hållbar utveckling i Mellanöstern,
7,5 högskolepoäng*
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2011-06-22 to be valid from 2011-06-22, autumn semester 2011.

General Information

The course is offered as part of the Master of Arts programme in Middle Eastern Studies (MESLU) at the Centre for Middle Eastern Studies and as a free-standing course.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Middle Eastern Studies

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course the student shall

Knowledge and understanding

- be able to identify and summarise the processes that shape and affect a sustainable management of natural resources and the environment in the Middle East
- be able to place the present-day environmental situation of the Middle East in a social and economic context, especially with regard to current development processes in the emerging civil society of the Middle East, and relate these to the historical use of natural resources in the region

- be able to analyse transnational processes for water and natural resources and how they are reflected in economic and social development

Competence and skills

- be able to apply fundamental concepts of sustainability theory to the environmental situation of the Middle East
- be able to discuss critically fundamental problems of water and land resources and illustrate how industrial processes and current social movements affect the environment in the Middle East
- be able to formulate ideas for research assignments on sustainable land and water exploitation and its links with poverty reduction and conflicts in the Middle East

Judgement and approach

- be able to assess relevant development phenomena with regard to land and water resource management
- be able to critically review key theoretical concepts of sustainability and their relevance to situations in the Middle East.

Course content

The course covers fundamental issues of the environmental impact of the exploitation and management of natural resources and its political, social and economic significance. Specifically, the view of the management of natural resources is related to present-day development processes in the emerging civil society of the Middle East. A central aim is to place land and water management and the environmental impact in the Middle East in a perspective of holistic sustainability with regard to social and economic development.

Through individual coursework the students will learn how to assess critically the current use of land and water resources and associated problems concerning the environment and sustainable development. Students will examine and acquire knowledge about methods for assessing traditional and alternative land and water use, preparing them for applying sustainability theory in roles as decision and policy makers, teachers and practitioners, in state agencies, industry and NGOs.

The course is structured around a series of lectures dealing with the environmental impact of land and water use and associated management methods. A special course component is focused on private initiatives to reduce poverty and manage the environment. The lectures are linked to seminars and project work in which current environmental and sustainability issues are analysed in depth. Students are encouraged to individually search for, analyse and synthesise literature. The course is summarised in a major individual project at the end of the course.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures and compulsory seminars.

Assessment

The assessment is based on the students' individual and active participation in the seminars, two written assignments during the course tied to the different course components and a final written assignment.

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

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction.

To be awarded a Pass on the course, students must have completed all assignments within the time span allotted to each.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have at least a Bachelor's degree.

Subcourses in MOSP50, Environment and Sustainable Development in the Middle East

Applies from V11

1101 Final Assignment: Environment and Sustainable Development, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction