



SASI02, Sustainability Studies: Concepts, Challenges and Approaches, 7.5 credits

Hållbarhetsstudier: koncept, utmaningar och angreppssätt, 7,5 högskolepoäng

First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Lund University Centre for Sustainability Studies on 2015-05-11 to be valid from 2015-08-31, autumn semester 2015.

General Information

The course is offered to exchange students at Lund university.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

G2F, First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

For a passing grade the student shall

- Show the ability to discuss the concept of sustainability from several different perspectives
- Demonstrate the capacity to differentiate some of the main worldviews that lie behind the discourses and debates about sustainability

Competence and skills

For a passing grade the student shall

- Be able to describe and discuss how sustainability challenges have implications at different levels and scales
- Have the ability to explain how a sustainability challenge has both social and ecological dimensions
- Demonstrate the capacity to illustrate a complex sustainability challenge using a tool, framework, or theory in the field.

Judgement and approach

For a passing grade the student shall

- Have the ability to propose a potential solution(s) to a particular challenge area and critically reflect on the strengths and limitations to it/them.

Course content

The course is an introduction to the interdisciplinary field of sustainability studies. The student is introduced to some of the approaches, theoretical concepts and tools used in sustainability studies. The course uses problem solving and critical approaches to explore some key sustainability challenges, e.g. climate change, biodiversity loss, ocean acidification and land-system change. The course integrates natural and social dimensions of these challenges. In this way it covers the scientific understanding of, theoretical perspectives on, and social perceptions of major sustainability challenges.

Course design

The course is comprised of lectures, seminars and excursions.

Participation in seminars is obligatory unless there are specific circumstances. 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

Assessment is carried out by means of evaluation of a written group project and oral presentation of the group project (40%), and a final individual paper (60%).

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 re-examinations on the same course content are offered. After this, further re-examination opportunities are offered but in accordance with the current course syllabus. 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 a passing grade 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 highest grade for the course as a whole is 5 and the lowest grade is 3. The student's performance is assessed with reference to 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 of 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.

At the beginning of the course, students are informed about the learning outcomes of the course and about the grading scale.

Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course the student must have fulfilled course requirements of at least 60 higher education credits at their home university.

Further information

The syllabus was adopted by the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Lund University, on June 11, 2015.

Subcourses in SASI02, Sustainability Studies: Concepts, Challenges and Approaches

Applies from H15

1501 Sustainability Studies: Concepts, Challenges and Approaches, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Three, Four, Five