

## **HEKM40, Human Ecology: Master's (60 Credits) Thesis Course, 15 credits**

*Human Ecology: Master's (60 Credits) Thesis Course, 15 högskolepoäng*  
**Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå**

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### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by Faculty Board of Social Sciences on 2011-11-17. The syllabus comes into effect 2012-01-01 and is valid from the spring semester 2012.

### **General information**

The course is offered as a single subject course in Human Ecology within the Master of Science Programme (60 credits) in Social Sciences, with a major in Human Ecology.

*Language of instruction:* English

*Main field of study*      *Specialisation*

Human Ecology	A1E, Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (60 credits)
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### **Learning outcomes**

Upon completion of the course the student shall have:

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

- demonstrated knowledge and understanding in human ecology, including both an overview of the field and specialised knowledge in certain areas of the field as well as insight into current research and development work, and
- demonstrated specialised methodological knowledge in human ecology.

#### **Competence and skills**

- demonstrated the ability to integrate knowledge and analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations even with limited information

- demonstrated the ability to identify and formulate issues autonomously as well as to plan and, using appropriate methods, undertake advanced tasks within predetermined time frames
- demonstrated the ability in speech and writing to report clearly and discuss his or her conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences,
- demonstrated the skills required for participation in research and development work or employment in some other qualified capacity, and
- demonstrated the ability to communicate scientific issues and follow the development of knowledge within the field of human ecology.

### **Judgement and approach**

- demonstrated the ability to make assessments in human ecology informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues and also to demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work
- demonstrated insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrated the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her on-going learning.

### **Course content**

The students are assigned individual advisors while compiling their Master's theses. The theses should address a particular issue within the field of Human Ecology, applying theoretical frameworks and research methods to a specific set of empirical data. The research question, theoretical framework, methods, empirical data, and conclusions should be clearly specified. The students are recommended to apply perspectives, concepts, and methods learned in earlier courses.

### **Course design**

Teaching is based on seminars, independent literature studies, and supervision. Participation in some seminars may be compulsory.

### **Assessment**

Examination is based on a thesis defended at a seminar, as well as discussion of a fellow student's thesis.

An opportunity for re-examination is offered after the end of the course. The student has the right to participate in examinations during the following terms, but in accordance with the course regulations that apply at the time.

The Master's thesis will be published in the Lund University electronic database for publications.

### **Grades**

Grading scale includes the grades: U=Fail, E=Sufficient, D=Satisfactory, C=Good, B=Very Good, A=Excellent

The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. The grade for a non-passing result is Fail.

The student's performance is assessed with reference to the learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of E the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of D the student must show satisfactory results. For the grade of C the student must show good results. For the grade of B the student must show very good results. For the grade of A the student must show excellent results. For the grade of Fail the student must have shown unacceptable results.

At the start of the course students are informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and about the grading scale and how it is applied in the course.

### **Entry requirements**

To be eligible for the course, the student must have achieved at least passing grade in the course HEKN11.