

## **JMIN01, Environmental Justice, 15 credits**

*Miljörättvisa, 15 högskolepoäng*  
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by Faculty of Law Board of education at undergraduate and postgraduate levels on 2025-02-19 (U 2025/113). The syllabus comes into effect 2025-02-19 and is valid from the autumn semester 2025.

### **General information**

The course Environmental Justice is an elective course in the Swedish Professional Law degree and to international students participating in exchange programs within the Faculty of Law.

The duration of the course is 10 weeks full-time studies.

*Language of instruction:* English

*Main field of study*

*Specialisation*

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

### **Learning outcomes**

The aim of the course is to provide students with an in-depth knowledge and understanding of Environmental Justice, ranging from the historical developments to compliance work in practice. The students will gain insights into the policies and conventions that regulate this field, as well as ongoing discussions and perspectives of various actors.

### **Knowledge and understanding**

After the course the student shall be able to:

- understand the fundamental principles of Environmental Justice, including recognition justice, procedural justice and distributive justice,

- understand the wider political, historical, and social context within which Environmental Justice developed and continues to develop,
- understand the key legal frameworks and instruments of environmental governance, including the Aarhus Convention, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Nagoya Protocol, EU legislation including environmental directives, and emerging corporate due diligence requirements,
- recognize the various alternative approaches to the fundamental concepts discussed in the course, such as climate justice, bio-justice, hydro-justice, global value-chains and a just transition,
- recognize the procedural mechanisms for achieving Environmental Justice, including environmental impact assessments, the precautionary principle, and rights to access to information, meaningful participation and justice in environmental matters, and
- identify key issues in relation to the various legal areas taught during the course and formulate coherent legal arguments.

### **Competence and skills**

After the course the student shall be able to:

- identify the conceptual components of the system of Environmental Justice in a modern and diverse world,
- apply the discussed provisions of protocols and conventions related to Environmental Justice to real and hypothetical scenarios,
- present orally and give productive feedback to peers, and
- perform independent research and take responsibility for the development of their own knowledge.

### **Judgement and approach**

After the course the student shall be able to:

- communicate, defend and reconsider their own views about how the most vulnerable people in society should be protected from the impacts of environmental harms,
- assess the relative quality of arguments concerning the practice and theory of Environmental Justice,
- relate and weight different approaches to Environmental Justice, and
- explain and discuss the content of the course during seminars while applying critical perspectives.

### **Course content**

The course is divided into several modules. The modules will give the students an understanding of the history and overview of Environmental Justice. Key concepts such as biodiversity and global supply chains will be discussed and used within the course. The students will get an understanding of why, when and where the development of Environmental Justice begun.

The students will get familiar with specific areas of law, including various conventions and other documents within international law. This will enable the students understanding of valid law and its applicability. Furthermore, the course aims to illustrate bilateral agreements and other forms of cooperation.

## Course design

The course objectives are met through active participation in the education, independent studies of the course material and carrying out obligatory elements of the course.

The course is web-based. The web-based lectures are paired with quizzes. Besides this the student shall actively participate in all four classroom-based seminars, or hand in supplementary assignments, and a final paper to obtain a grade.

## Assessment

The students' performance will be assessed during four mandatory seminars and one final paper. Each seminar is worth one (1) credit each, and the final paper is worth eleven (11) credits. If a student is unable to participate in a mandatory seminar the student will receive a supplementary assignment.

The final grade is based on a weighted assessment of:

- the student's achieved result of the final paper.
- the student's active participation at the seminars.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

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## Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: Fail, Pass, Pass with Credit, Pass with Distinction  
All grading criteria rest on the baseline set up for the grade B. Criteria for the grade BA are additional to those for the grade B. Criteria for the grade AB are additional to those for the grade BA.

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### **B – Pass**

To obtain a B grade, the student must show basic:

- understanding in the theoretical and practical applications of legal issues regarding Environmental Justice,
- knowledge and ability to analyse fundamental principles within the field of study and selected topics, and
- understanding and ability to analyse selected topics in Environmental Justice, both oral, written and legal argumentation skills as well as basic ability to interpret different legal norms and case law within international law.

### **BA – Pass with credit**

To obtain a BA grade, the student must show good:

- understanding in theoretical and practical applications of legal issues regarding Environmental Justice,
- knowledge and ability to analyse fundamental principles within the field of study and selected topics, and
- understanding and ability to analyse selected topics in Environmental Justice, both oral, written, and legal argumentation skills as well as ability to interpret different legal norms and case law within international law.

### **AB – Pass with distinction**

To obtain an AB grade, the student must show advanced:

- understanding in theoretical and practical applications of legal issues regarding Environmental Justice,
- knowledge and ability to analyse fundamental principles within the field of study and selected topics, and
- understanding and ability to analyse selected topics in Environmental Justice, both oral, written and legal argumentation skills as well as ability to interpret different legal norms and case law within international law.

### **Entry requirements**

For students on the Professional Law Degree Programme the entry requirements for semesters 7 and 8 are outlined in the Programme syllabus (utbildningsplanen).

Exchange students must have passed at least two and a half years of law studies at university level including basic knowledge of public international law.

### **Further information**

The course is scheduled to require 10 weeks of full studies.

The University views plagiarism as a very serious academic offence and will take disciplinary actions against students for any kind of attempted malpractice in connection with examinations and assessments. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other unfair practice in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University.