



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Social Sciences

## MESC02, Agenda 2030 - Knowing, Measuring and Leading, 7.5 credits

*Agenda 2030 - Kunskap, uppföljning och ledarskap, 7,5  
högskolepoäng*

First Cycle / Grundnivå

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### Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Lund University Centre for Sustainability Studies on 2021-02-04 to be valid from 2021-03-15, autumn semester 2021.

### General Information

The course is offered as a freestanding course.

*Language of instruction:* English

*Main field of studies*

Environmental Studies and Sustainability  
Science

*Depth of study relative to the degree  
requirements*

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary  
level entry requirements

### Learning outcomes

Upon the completion of the course, the student shall

#### Knowledge and understanding

- Demonstrate interdisciplinary knowledge and understanding of the Sustainable Development Goals and the connection between them, including their history and challenges in implementation.
- Demonstrate an interdisciplinary understanding of how to evaluate and monitor the Sustainable Development Goals, with knowledge of targets and indicators.
- Demonstrate understanding and the ability to reflect on different leadership models for decision-making and measures to promote the Sustainable Development Goals.

### **Competence and skills**

- Demonstrate the ability to understand and analyze individual Sustainable Development Goals and their interconnected biophysical, political, social and economic dynamics at the local to global level.
- Demonstrate competence in critical thinking, ability to reframe the definition and solution of a problem.
- Demonstrate the ability to make use of measurement tools to identify the scale of certain sustainability challenges and to be able to monitor and predict the progress and effectiveness of specific measures.
- Develop skills in leadership, communication, facilitation, networking and negotiation relevant to strategic decision making.

### **Judgement and approach**

- Demonstrate a critical and scientifically grounded approach to Agenda 2030.
- Identify opportunities for engagement with Agenda 2030 in professional and private capacity.

### **Course content**

The course provides an interdisciplinary and current perspective on the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. The course provides extensive and comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the Sustainable Development Goals, which are integrated and indivisible and balance three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, the social and the environmental.

The course is structured in three interconnected modules, all of which contribute to the pedagogical goal of developing an operational understanding of synergies and trade-offs associated with the Sustainable Development Goals.

#### **Module 1 – Knowing**

The module provides an interdisciplinary understanding of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and their interlinkages. Students will receive an introduction to the development and history of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. The module will focus on systems thinking and guide and facilitate students to deepen their knowledge of the Sustainable Development Goals and its targets and indicators, as well as synergies and trade-offs between the goals.

#### **Module 2 – Measuring**

The module highlights the framework for the follow-up of the Sustainable Development Goals with its targets and indicators, as well as the importance of evaluations and monitoring for decision-making. The module focuses on understanding the role of measurements and its limitations as well as knowledge of the tools and methods used as well as a critical examination of the design of measurements.

#### **Module 3 – Leading**

The module provides a basic understanding of the key challenges for governance in implementing the 2030 Agenda, discusses key concepts in the areas of leadership and organisation, and highlights the importance of developing communication, networking, leadership and negotiation skills relevant to strategic decision-making.

## Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, seminars and exercises. Individual and group-based exercises and assignments are combined to stimulate and evaluate the students' ability to conceptualize and analyze individual Sustainable Development Goals as well as their interconnected biophysical, political, social and economic dynamics at local to global level.

Tools and knowledge introduced in the course are applied to concrete empirical cases selected by the student.

### Compulsory components:

Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, compulsory participation is required in the presentation of written group assignment (module 1) and in the presentation of individual assignment (module 3). Students who have been unable to participate due to circumstances such as accidents or sudden illness will be offered the opportunity to compensate for or re-take compulsory components. This also applies to students who have been absent because of duties as an elected student representative.

## Assessment

Course assessment is based on two assignments:

- Written group take-home exam (3,5 credits)
- Written individual take-home exam (4 credits)

The course includes opportunities for assessment at a first examination, a re-sit close to the first examination and a second re-sit for courses that have ended during that school year. Two further re-examinations on the same course content are offered within a year of the end of the course. 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.

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.

*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 is Five and the lowest grade for passing is Three.

Grades for a non-passing result is Fail. The student's results are assessed with reference to learning outcomes of the course. For grade Five, the student must show an excellent result in all learning outcomes. For the grade Four, the student must show a very good result in all learning outcomes. For the grade Three, the student must show a sufficiently good result in all learning outcomes. The grade Fail means

that the student has not reached the learning outcomes of the course.

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

### **Overall course grade:**

The grade for the entire course consists of the average grade of the two assignments that are assessed according to the Fail-5-4-3 grading scale. The written group take-home exam is worth 40% of the final grade. The written individual take-home exam is worth 60% of the final grade. For a grade of 3 on the entire course the student must have been awarded at least 3 on both assignments.

The student must also have participated in all compulsory components to pass the course.

Exams	Credits	Grades	Part of final grade for the course
Written group take-home exam	3,5	Fail-3-4-5	40%
Written individual take-home exam	4,0	Fail-3-4-5	60%
	7,5		100%

Example: The student receives grade Four on the first written group take-home exam and grade Five on the second written individual take-home exam. The final grade is 5  $((4 * 40) + (5 * 60)) / 100 = 4,6$

### **Entry requirements**

General requirements and studies equivalent of courses Social Studies 1b or 1a1+1a2 and English 6 from Swedish Upper Secondary School.

### **Further information**

This course cannot be included in a degree together with MESC01.

## Subcourses in MESC02, Agenda 2030 - Knowing, Measuring and Leading

Applies from H21

- 2101 Written group take-home exam, 3,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Three, Four, Five
- 2102 Written individual take-home exam, 4,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Three, Four, Five