



Faculty of Social Sciences

## **MESS34, Governance of Sustainability, 7.5 credits**

*Samhällsstyrning och hållbarhet, 7,5 högskolepoäng*

**Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå**

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### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Lund University Centre for Sustainability Studies on 2012-10-17 to be valid from 2014-01-20, spring semester 2014.

### **General Information**

The main field of study is *Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science*. The course constitutes the 4th course at LUMES, Lund University International Master's Programme in Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science.

The course is compulsory for all LUMES students. The language of instruction is English.

*Language of instruction:* English

*Main field of studies*

Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science

*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

### **Learning outcomes**

On completion of the course, the student shall demonstrate:

- a deeper understanding of the theoretical and ideological assumptions of different types of governance systems, based on market, state regulation, and civil society (including the role of business and social movements) and their relevance to sustainability;
- an awareness of several currently practiced governance models addressing real-world sustainability challenges at different levels (local, national, regional, global) and in different scales (spatial and temporal);
- the ability to assess the benefits and shortcomings of existing governance regimes with reference to particular sustainability indicators, as well as the capacity to propose alternative governance measures while recognizing their alternative benefits and shortcomings.

## Course content

The course discusses different theoretical approaches to governance, different governance models in terms of scales and levels, and how successfully various governance regimes deal with concrete sustainability challenges. The focus will be on:

- History of the development of governance and its discontents;
- Basic approaches to governance and their theoretical foundation in social theory (market, collective action, state regulation, business initiatives, NGOs, social movements, etc.)
- Various governance models currently practiced with regard to pressing sustainability challenges.

## Course design

The course is comprised of lectures, seminars, group discussions, students' presentations, and individual assignments/papers.

Consistent regular class attendance and fully engaged participation is expected from all students in LUMES. Attendance at the sessions where graded activities take place is compulsory to pass the course.

## Assessment

For a passing grade the student must (a) have an overall passing mark on the individual assignments; (b) have an overall pass on combined group work and individual assignments; (c) have participated in the mandatory sessions;

Students who fail a test have the right to re-examination. An opportunity for re-examination will be offered after the end of the course. If necessary, a second re-examination will be arranged at a later date. 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 pass mark 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 grades awarded in examinations are 5 - 4 - 3 - Fail. The highest grade is 5 and the lowest passing grade is 3. The grade for a non-passing result is Fail. The student's performance is assessed with reference to the 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 "3", the student must obtain a minimum criteria in fulfilling *all* course learning outcomes. The grade of Fail signifies that the student has not fulfilled all learning outcomes of the course, or that additional work is required before the credit can be awarded.

## **Entry requirements**

To be eligible for the course the student must have fulfilled course requirements of at least 10 higher education credits in the LUMES programme.

## **Further information**

This course cannot be included in a degree together with MESS03, Environmental Governance, 7,5 hp.

The course was adopted by the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Lund University, on September 26, 2013.

## Subcourses in MESS34, Governance of Sustainability

Applies from V20

2001 Governance of Sustainability, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Three, Four, Five

Applies from H13

1301 Governance of Sustainability, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Three, Four, Five