



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Social Sciences

## **MESS46, Social Movements and Sustainability, 7.5 credits**

*Sociala rörelser 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 2013-09-04 to be valid from 2014-08-31, autumn semester 2014.

### **General Information**

The main field of study is *Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science*. The course constitutes a 3rd term elective (non-compulsory) course at LUMES, Lund University International Master's Programme in Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science.

*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:

- deep understanding with the history and theories of Social Movements as agents of social change.
- in-depth knowledge of various methods used by social movements, and of various pathways through which social movements may affect the public decision making.
- deep understanding of a number of concrete cases where social movements have taken up some environmental/ sustainability issues, and have brought about, or failed to bring about change in the direction of a more sustainable society.
- the ability to use their analytical knowledge of social movements to analyze the social movements for sustainability in terms of the sources of their strength, their methods and their strategies, and to evaluate their impact on the public agenda and public policy for sustainability.

- skill in using case-study method and familiarity with the range of field-work methods associated with case study.

## Course content

This course starts with lectures, reviewing briefly the history of, and different theoretical perspectives on, social movements and introducing the students to the relevant literature. Then all students are required to choose a real-life case of a social movement for a sustainability issue and, using a theoretical perspective from the relevant literature, present their case at a seminar for class discussion (depending on the number of students registered for course, seminar will be either by individual or by a group of students). The course ends by students writing a term-paper on the outstanding issues that emerge during the class discussions on cases.

## Course design

The course is comprised of a few lectures, seminars, and class discussion. The seminars will focus on different social movements. Students will analyse and present literature themselves. At the seminars, students will discuss the literature and present a case study for discussion.

The course introduction, seminars, seminar presentations, and the final individual assignment are compulsory unless there are special reasons. 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

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 reexamination opportunities are offered but in accordance with the current course syllabus.

Students who fail a test have the right to re-examination. 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 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, 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 40 credits in the LUMES programme.

### **Further information**

The syllabus was adopted by the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Lund University, on December 12, 2013.

## Subcourses in MESS46, Social Movements and Sustainability

Applies from H14

1301 Social Movements and Sustainability, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Three, Four, Five