



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Social Sciences

MIDA24, Development Studies: Sustainable Development and Natural Resource Management, 7.5 credits

Development Studies: Sustainable Development and Natural Resource Management, 7,5 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Steering committee for the Master of Science Programme in International Development and Management on 2018-11-29 to be valid from 2019-01-21, spring semester 2019.

General Information

This course is offered during the second term of the Master of Science Programme in International Development and Management (LUMID) at Lund University.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Development Studies

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

GXX, First cycle, in-depth level of the course cannot be classified

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge about the emerging field of sustainability science including its perspectives on and approaches to natural resource use;
- demonstrate an integrated understanding of ecological, economic, cultural, political and social aspects of natural resources including their use, misuse and management;
- demonstrate basic knowledge about the concept and functioning of the Earth System and its life-support sub-systems; and
- demonstrate a multifaceted theoretical and methodological understanding of and capacity to analyse general, specific and sustainable uses of natural resources, at

This is a translation of the course syllabus approved in Swedish

present and in the long term.

Competence and skills

- employ key concepts, theories and methods relating to natural resource use and management;
- apply interdisciplinary knowledge, understanding and problem-solving ability, to identify basic natural resource problems affecting development;
- demonstrate the ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and to analyse and assess relevant development phenomena related to resource use;
- formulate research questions about the relationship between natural resource use, development and sustainability;
- analyse and critically examine development theories, policies and strategies in the light of sustainable use and management of natural resources;
- demonstrate the ability to clearly present, defend and discuss results and conclusions, in dialogue with different groups, orally and in writing; and
- demonstrate an ability to critically, independently and creatively carry out advanced tasks within specified time limits.

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the field of sustainable use and management of natural resources, taking into account relevant social and scientific aspects, and demonstrate an awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work; and
- demonstrate the ability and responsibility to identify the need for further knowledge.

Course content

The course covers issues pertaining to the use and management of land, water and biological resources; environmental concerns; climate change and methods of assessing and handling data related to natural resources in a development context.

The main objective is to see natural resource use and management in developing countries from a socio-ecological perspective. The main focus is on land, water and biological resources in the light of climate change and variability. Through individual and group work, students will be able to critically examine the current use/misuse of natural resources in relation to development. Students will acquire the necessary knowledge and concrete skills to understand physical processes and to analyse interactions between human agency and natural systems. The course will introduce the idea in ecological economics of provisioning, regulating and cultural ecosystem services (such as biodiversity, carbon storage, pollination and water purification.) as well as theories and concepts in political ecology and critical human approaches. The course will prepare the student to use this knowledge for promoting sustainable use and management of natural resources in a professional role, such as that of policymakers, trainers or practitioners in government agencies, private firms or NGOs.

Course design

The course is organised around a series of lectures and seminars covering key issues in soil, water and vegetation processes relating to the use and management of these resources. Lectures and seminars are followed by project work, both individually and

in groups, in which challenges in natural resource use and management are treated in more depth. Students will be encouraged to search individually and collectively for information, and to analyse and present syntheses of literature. The course will conclude with seminars to present, discuss and defend student projects and papers.

Assessment

Assessment will be based on:

- individual paper,
- one group project paper including presentation, discussion and defence in project seminars; and
- active participation in seminars.

Examinations will be scheduled during the academic year only. Re-examination will be offered after the end of the course. If necessary, a second re-examination will be arranged at a later date.

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, E, D, C, B, A.

The grades awarded are A, B, C, D, E or Fail. 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.

Course components such as conversation practice, study visits, group exercises are exempted from the grading scale above. The grades awarded for such components are Pass or Fail. For the grade of Pass the student must show acceptable 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

Students are required to have passed the first two courses (MIDA11, 15 credits and MIDM12, 15 credits) of the LUMID programme.

A good command of English language both spoken and written, equivalent to English6/B (advanced) proficiency in the Swedish secondary system, is required. Equivalence assessments will be made according to national guidelines.

Subcourses in MIDA24, Development Studies: Sustainable Development and Natural Resource Management

Applies from V14

1301 Sustainable Development and Natural Resource Management, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A