



Faculty of Social Sciences

## MIDM45, Development Studies: Rural and Urban Development and Livelihoods, 7.5 credits

*Utvecklingsstudier: Utveckling och försörjningsmöjligheter i stad och  
på landsbygd, 7,5 högskolepoäng*  
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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### Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by Steering committee for the Master of Science Programme in International Development and Management on 2015-03-11 and was valid from 2015-08-31, autumn semester 2015.

### General Information

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

*Main field of studies*

Development Studies

*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

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

### Learning outcomes

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

#### Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of past and contemporary issues pertaining to urban and rural development and livelihoods, including different definitions of urbanity and rurality, and theories and frameworks for understanding urban and rural development and the interaction between the two in developing countries;

## Competence and skills

- apply knowledge and understanding, and problem solving abilities, to independently identify urban and rural development issues from an interdisciplinary perspective;
- demonstrate the ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and to analyse and assess complex phenomena and issues in the fields of urban rural development and urban and rural livelihoods;
- critically analyse the empirical and theoretical connections between rural and urban development, at the micro and meso levels;
- identify and analyse specific urban and rural development needs;
- demonstrate the ability to clearly present and discuss conclusions, and the knowledge and arguments behind them, 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 fields of urban and rural development, taking into account relevant scientific, social and ethical aspects, and demonstrate an awareness of ethical aspects of research and urban and rural development work;
- demonstrate the ability to identify the need of further knowledge and to take responsibility for developing new knowledge; and
- demonstrate an ability to critically, independently and creatively identify and formulate issues and to plan and, using appropriate methods, carry out advanced tasks within specified time limits, so as to contribute to the development of knowledge within the area of international development and management and to evaluate this work

## Course content

This course offers students from different academic backgrounds a summary of concepts, theories and frameworks for understanding and examining urban and rural development in developing countries. The rural part of the course provides a critical analysis of the processes of agrarian change in developing countries and gives students an opportunity to explore and reflect upon current theoretical and policy oriented debates related to issues such as rural livelihood diversification, including the sustainable rural livelihoods approach and rural urban interactions. The part of the course focusing on urban development analyses past and possible future patterns and trends of urbanisation in developing countries and offers students a chance to focus on several of the current challenges facing urban settlements. In both parts of the course, gender related questions will receive attention.

## Course design

Through individual as well as group based course work students will acquire a critical social science approach to urban and rural development in developing countries. Students will acquire the knowledge and concrete skills necessary to understand, assess and work in urban and rural development related fields, whether in direct poverty reduction or in other aspects of social and institutional development.

The course comprises a series of lectures covering key issues in urban and rural

development from a number of disciplinary angles Seminars are used to treat the different theme in more depth.

The course also involves the writing of an individual course paper in which students will explore a selected theme for in depth study. In this part of the course students will search for literature appropriate to their chosen theme and write a paper.

## Assessment

Assessments will be based on:

- group assignments;
- an individual course paper;
- 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.

*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.

If the student does not submit an assignment on time, the student will receive a lower grade on the assignment in question. The latter does not apply if the student can demonstrate that the assignment was delayed due to special circumstances such as illness, in which case the assignment will be assessed according to regular procedure.

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; MIDM12, 15 credits) of the LUMID programme.

## Subcourses in MIDM45, Development Studies: Rural and Urban Development and Livelihoods

Applies from H15

1501 Rural and Urban Development and Livelihoods, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A