

Faculty of Science

MVEN22, Environmental Health: Methods and Professional Training, 15 credits

Miljö- och hälsoskydd: metodik och praktik, 15 högskolepoäng Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Study programmes board, Faculty of Science on 2021-05-28 to be valid from 2021-05-28, spring semester 2022.

General Information

The course is an elective second-cycle course for a degree of Master of Science in Natural Science or Environment Health Science.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Main field of studies Depth of study relative to the degree

requirements

Environmental Health A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle

course/s as entry requirements

Environmental Science A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle

course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

The general aim of the course is for students, on completion of the course, to have acquired the knowledge and skills required to perform exercise of authority in the environmental and health protection area, efficiently and with legal certainty.

Knowledge and understanding

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

- account for current law and practice in the environmental and health protection area and administrative law, relevant public authorities, applicable statutes, indicative cases, and other regulatory documents in the environmental and health protection area
- describe the basis and conflicting goals prior to decisions and selected management measures

• explain the meaning of legal certainty and efficient exercise of authority in an environmental health agency, in different types of cases and in different situations.

Competence and skills

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

- document and communicate data in case management systems
- carry out and troubleshoot the analysis of measurements, calculations and submitted information from operators and other parties
- use legal databases, supervision guidance and scientific information
- document case management, produce letters, inspection records and decisions, and understand how to apply statutory regulations and penalties in the main field of study.
- conduct meetings and supervisory visits in accordance with good inspection practices, with a legally correct approach and appropriate handling of conflicts.

Judgement and approach

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

- evaluate collected data for the exercise of authority in the area of environmental and health protection
- assess how legislation, indicative legal cases and other supervision guidance, as well as national, regional and local targets, influence the need to prioritise supervisory areas for sustainable development
- critically review data, conflicting goals, legislation, legal cases and other relevant documentation
- provide arguments and propose measures for decisions using an open and critical approach that facilitates reconsideration in the event of new circumstances.

Course content

The course consists of two modules:

Module 1: Theory, 7.5 credits

The module covers the structure of the legal community, the principles of public activities, the role as public official, and the independence, power and obligations of supervisory authorities. Furthermore, the link between political supervisory board and staff, municipal legal aspects of the exercise of public authority, and the rights and obligations of officials and the public regarding environmental and health protection cases, are discussed.

The module provides students with practice in investigation: to search for legal cases, data from environmental monitoring and other information for management and decision-making, as well as methodology and theory to carry out detailed inspections, system and environmental inspections, case management, documentation, formulation of decisions, access, police assistance, coercive measures, treatment and conflict management. Practical group exercises to practise case management (case studies) that may include site visits, measurements, calculations, document reviews, interviews, legal assessments, written exercises and oral presentations. The module also includes lectures, seminars and study visits in current inspection areas, such as social planning, air pollution, noise, energy and climate.

Module 2: Internship, 7.5 credits

Internship with supervision in the area of environmental and health protection. The internship includes several components from the theoretical part of the course e.g.

keeping records and other administration, planning and implementation of inspections and other internal and external meetings, and tasks such as review notifications, applications and other submitted information about the case, searching for relevant legislation, guidance, legal cases and other case information, using public models and procedures, proposing management measures, writing letters, statements and decisions and, if possible, participating in board meetings and court proceedings, or the equivalent.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, seminars, group exercises, internship and study visits or the equivalent. Participation in the group exercises and the internship, and at least 75% of other parts (lectures, seminars and study visits) is compulsory.

Assessment

The assessment is based on the following modules:

Theory, 7.5 credits

The assessment is based on oral presentations of three group exercises with associated written assignments and the submission of an individual written take-home examination.

Internship at a Supervisory Authority, 7.5 credits

The assessment is based on a written individual internship diary and certificate and evaluation from the supervisor.

For students who have not passed the regular examination, an additional examination in close connection to this is offered.

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, Pass.

To pass the entire course, approved oral and written presentations of the group exercises, approved written individual take-home examination and internship diary, as well as at least 75% attendance at the internship and remaining parts (lectures and study visits), are required.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, 90 credits in science courses are required, including knowledge equivalent to MVEA10 Environmental Science: Basic Course, 15 credits, and MVEC18 Environmental Science: Law in Environmental Studies, 15 credits.

Further information

The course may not be included in a degree together with MVEN11 Environmental Science: Methods and Professional Training in Environmental Health Management, 15 credits.

Subcourses in MVEN22, Environmental Health: Methods and Professional Training

Applies from V22

2201 Theory, 7,5 hp

Grading scale: Fail, Pass

2202 Internship at a supervisory authority, 7,5 hp

Grading scale: Fail, Pass