



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Social Sciences

SASI03, Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science: Concepts, Challenges and Approaches in Sustainability Studies, 7.5 credits

*Miljö- och hållbarhetsvetenskap: Koncept, utmaningar och
angreppssätt inom hållbarhetsstudier, 7,5 högskolepoäng*
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Lund University Centre for Sustainability Studies on 2017-06-01 to be valid from 2017-08-27, spring semester 2018.

General Information

The course is offered to exchange students at Lund university

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Environmental Studies and Sustainability
Science

*Depth of study relative to the degree
requirements*

G2F, First cycle, has at least 60 credits in
first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

For a passing grade the student shall

- Show the ability to discuss the concept of sustainability from several different perspectives
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of social and ecological dimensions of sustainability challenges

Competence and skills

For a passing grade the student shall

- Be able to describe and discuss how different sustainability challenges have implications at different levels and scales
- Demonstrate the capacity to differentiate some of the main perceptions that inform the discourses and debates about sustainability
- Demonstrate the capacity to illustrate a complex sustainability challenge using a tool, framework, or theory in the field

Judgement and approach

For a passing grade the student shall

- Have the ability to propose a potential solution(s) to a particular challenge area and critically reflect on the strengths and limitations to it/them

Course content

The course is an introduction to the interdisciplinary field of sustainability studies. The student is introduced to some of the approaches, theoretical concepts and tools used in sustainability studies. The course uses problem solving and critical approaches to explore some key sustainability challenges, e.g. climate change, biodiversity loss, ocean acidification and land-system change. The course integrates natural and social dimensions of these challenges. In this way it covers the scientific understanding of, theoretical perspectives on, and social perceptions of major sustainability challenges.

Course design

The course is comprised of lectures, seminars and excursions.

Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, compulsory participation is required in the seminars. Students who have been unable to participate due to circumstances such as accidents or sudden illness will be offered the opportunity to compensate for or re-take compulsory components. This also applies to students who have missed classes because of activities as a student representative.

Assessment

Assessment is carried out by means of evaluation of a written group project and oral presentation of the group project, two individual assignments (take-home exams), completion of a log book and a final individual paper (take-home exam).

The course includes opportunities for assessment at a first examination, a re-sit close to the first examination and a second re-sit for courses that have ended during that school year. Two further re-examinations on the same course content are offered within a year of the end of the course. After this, further re-examination opportunities are offered but in accordance with the current course syllabus.

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 a passing grade 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 highest grade for the course as a whole 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 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.

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 on the course.

Overall course grade:

The grade for the entire course consists of the average grade of all assessed assignments. The written group project and oral presentation of the group project is worth 35% of the final grade, the two individual assignments (take-home exams) are each worth 5% of the final grade, the completion of the log book is worth 5% of the final grade and the final individual paper (take-home exam) is worth 50% of the final grade. For the grade of 3 on the entire course the student must have been awarded at least 3 on all assessments. The student must also have actively participated in all compulsory components.

Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course the student must have fulfilled course requirements of at least 60 higher education credits at their home university. Oral and written proficiency in English equivalent to English 6/B (advanced) from Swedish upper secondary school is a requirement. International qualifications will be assessed in accordance with national guidelines.

Subcourses in SASI03, Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science:
Concepts, Challenges and Approaches in Sustainability Studies

Applies from H18

1801 Concepts, Challenges and Approaches in Sustainability Studie, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Three, Four, Five