



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Social Sciences

## **SGED11, Human Geography: The Contemporary Geography of African Development I, 15 credits**

*Samhällsgeografi: Afrikas aktuella utvecklingsgeografi I, 15  
högskolepoäng*  
First Cycle / Grundnivå

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### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Human Geography on 2016-12-06 to be valid from 2017-03-15, autumn semester 2017.

### **General Information**

The course is offered as a freestanding course.

*Language of instruction:* English

*Main field of studies*

Human Geography

*Depth of study relative to the degree  
requirements*

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary  
level entry requirements

### **Learning outcomes**

To pass the examination, students must be able to

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

- show a basic knowledge of the African geography,
- show knowledge of post-colonial perspectives on African history,
- show knowledge of rural and agricultural development in Africa,
- show knowledge of Africa's new position in the global economy,
- show knowledge of strategies for poverty reduction in Africa and its results,
- show basic knowledge of Africa's current development,

#### **Competence and skills**

- show the ability to analyze the different socio-economic and demographic developments of the continent,
- show the ability to identify and understand the different economic strategies and trade regimes taking place in the continent,

### **Judgement and approach**

- show the ability to critically analyze the historical background of the continent,
- demonstrate the ability to critically analyze texts, both scientific texts as mass media, relating to the course content.

### **Course content**

The course gives an introduction to the contemporary geographical perspectives on African development. The course gives an overview of the socio-economic diversity of Africa, putting special efforts on mapping the present situation and lifting up not only the concerns, but also the potentials, of the continent. The course covers issues relating to geography, history, society, politics and economy. This is done by presenting and reproduce the continent and its history from different perspectives, such as a post-colonial African perspective.

The first part is a general introduction to Africa's physical geography and its relationship to the continent's socio-economic development. The second part presents the African economies and their development since 1980. The course emphasizes Africa's current role in the global economy and its relation to the growing Asian economies. The last part introduces Africa's agricultural development and the problem of food security.

### **Course design**

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars. Lectures will present major perspectives on the development of the African continent and its variation in space and time. The seminars will focus on critical discussion of the literature as well as the reflection on alternative ways of understanding African development. Students are expected to have read and reflected upon course literature before lectures and be prepared for active participation in seminars.

Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, compulsory participation is required in 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 been absent because of duties as an elected student representative.

### **Assessment**

The assesment of the course is based on a written take-home exam and four written and oral seminar assignments.

Three opportunities for examination are offered in conjunction with the course: a first examination and two re-examinations. 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.

*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 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.

Two of the oral and written seminar assignments are exempted from the grading scale above. The grades awarded for these 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.

The weighted final grade is determined by the student's result on the written take-home exam (weighted 60 %) and two of the oral and written seminar assignments (weighted 40 %). The conversion of the grades on the course components to a grade on the whole course is based on a mathematical formula in which the letter grades are translated into the following figures: A=5.0; B=4.0; C=3.5; D=3.0 and E=2.5, on which an average for the assessed components is calculated. Figures are rounded down, except for the grade A where 4.5 and more is rounded up to A.

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.

## **Entry requirements**

General requirements for university studies in Sweden

## **Further information**

The course cannot be included in a degree together with the course SGED01, The Contemporary Geography of African Development I (15 credits) or Human Geography: The Contemporary Geography of African Development I (15 credits).

Subcourses in SGED11, Human Geography: The Contemporary Geography of African Development I

Applies from H17

1601 The Contemporary Geography of African Development I, 15,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A