



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Social Sciences

SGEM22, Human Geography: Landscape and Political Ecology, 7.5 credits
Samhällsgeografi: Landskapsgeografi och politisk ekologi, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Human Geography on 2015-02-03 to be valid from 2015-08-31, autumn semester 2015.

General Information

The course is taught within term 1 of the Master's programme in Human Geography (120 credits) and also offered as a freestanding course.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Human Geography

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

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

Learning outcomes

Upon completing the course, participants should be able to demonstrate:

Knowledge and understanding

- knowledge of how different understandings and definitions of landscape have developed within the discipline of geography as a tool to analyse different lived milieus on the earth,
- in-depth understanding of how landscapes are a socio-natural medium for fundamental environmental problems and concerns,
- broad knowledge of the ways in which the scientific field of political ecology critically examines the foundations of environmental injustice and destruction and seeks to make sustainable outcomes more possible,
- knowledge of scientific information,

Competence and skills

- the ability to independently search for information on the course themes, critically analyse and evaluate the information and its sources and effectively communicate findings,
- skills to select effective methods to access the needed information,
- the ability to communicate scientifically and follow scientific development within the area of study,
- the ability to select correct scientific referencing techniques,
- the skills to actively present and discuss critically within the area of study,

Judgement and approach

- have competence to command scientific communication and monitor knowledge development within the field of studies,
- have skills in critical active reading, presentation, and discussion within the field of studies.

Course content

The course offers advanced insights to landscape geography and actively combines this with critical ways of thinking about the environment, environmental problems and solutions within the field of political ecology. Landscape and political ecology thereby weaves together a number of critical issues concerning the ways in which the environment is transformed. Recognising that uneven processes of change shape the social and cultural geographic development of places and landscapes, the course wants to examine the tensions and power relations that are at play on different scales in the intersection between nature, society, and politics.

Course design

The course is structured around a series of lectures, seminars and an excursion. Lectures introduce the theoretical foundations of the topics of the course, supplemented by seminar activities which are designed to encourage critical reflection and relate theoretical approaches to real-world developments. Attendance at guest lectures and seminars is compulsory unless there are special grounds. An alternative form or date for compulsory components is offered to students who are not able to complete a compulsory component owing to circumstances beyond their control, e.g. accident, sudden illness or similar. This also applies to students who have missed teaching because of activities as a student representative.

Assessment

The course is assessed through individual written and spoken assignments with two seminars and a final written assignment. Three opportunities for examination are offered in conjunction with the course: a first examination and two re-examinations. Within a year of the end of the course, two further re-examinations on the same course content are offered. 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 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. 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

To be qualified the student must have at least 150 credits, including a Bachelor thesis in Human Geography or the equivalent.

A good command of English language both spoken and written, equivalent to English 6/B (advanced) proficiency in the Swedish secondary system, is required. Equivalence assessments will be made according to national guidelines.

Further information

The course can not be included in a degree together with SGEM13, Human Geography: Social, Economic and Environmental Challenges for Cities, Landscapes and Regions, 15 credits.

Subcourses in SGEM22, Human Geography: Landscape and Political Ecology

Applies from H15

1501 Landscape and Political Ecology, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A