



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Social Sciences

## **SGEM25, Human Geography: GIS and Fieldwork Methodology, 7.5 credits**

*Samhällsgeografi: GIS och forskningsmetodologi i fält, 7,5  
högskolepoäng*

**Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå**

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### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Human Geography on 2015-06-02 to be valid from 2016-01-18, spring semester 2016.

### **General Information**

The course is taught as a compulsory course in the second term of the Master's programme in Human Ecology: Culture, Power and Sustainability (120 credits), and within term 2 of the Master's programme in Human Geography (120 credits).

*Language of instruction:* English

*Main field of studies*

Human Geography

*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

### **Learning outcomes**

Upon completion of the course the student should be able to demonstrate:

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

- in-depth knowledge of various qualitative and quantitative methods in human geography and human ecology,
- an understanding of the process of fieldwork preparation, in the context of human ecological and human geographical studies,
- an understanding of the particularities related to GIS and geographic data collection including proficiency in data management, data and geographical analysis, as well as the presentation of geographic information,

### Competence and skills

- the ability to identify and formulate research questions,
- the ability to prepare, perform and evaluate a research design,
- the ability to use various qualitative, quantitative and GIS methods in human geography and human ecology,
- the ability to collect, manage and analyse data and communicate the results,
- the ability to independently search for information on the course themes, critically analyse and evaluate the information and its sources and effectively communicate findings,

### Judgement and approach

- the ability to compare the advantages and disadvantages of various methodologies in human geography and human ecology,
- the ability to evaluate the appropriateness of various methodologies in relation to a posed research question,
- the ability to critically reflect on limitations in data and methodologies.

### Course content

The course introduces methodologies through applied fieldwork. The first course element is concerned with preparation of fieldwork, including formulation of research questions, selecting between research methods, organisation of data collection and introduction to several GIS-related techniques for data collection. The second course element is fieldwork, either in Sweden or abroad, where the prepared methods are applied and data collected. The final course element is analysis of the gathered data and communication of results.

### Course design

Teaching is carried out through a mixture of lectures, laboratories, field work and seminars. **The student plans**, conducts and presents a research project and critically reviews a fellow student's work. Attendance at guest lectures, laboratories, field work 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 a written project report based on the conducted field work and an oral defence of this project report. 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 accepted on to the course the student must be enrolled to the master programme in human ecology (Master's Programme in Human Ecology: Culture, Power and Sustainability) (120 credits) or the master programme in Human Geography (120 credits). In addition, the student is required to have taken at least 7.5 credits of research methods from either Human Geography or Human Ecology at the advanced level, or equivalent.

## **Further information**

Any eventual fieldwork costs are to be financed by the student.

Subcourses in SGEM25, Human Geography: GIS and Fieldwork  
Methodology

Applies from V16

1501 Human Geography: GIS and Fieldwork Methodology, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A