



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Social Sciences

## **SGEM27, Geographies of Innovation and Societal Transformations, 8 credits**

*Innovationer och Samhällsomvandlingens Geografi, 8 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 2022-06-06 to be valid from 2023-01-16, spring semester 2023.

### **General Information**

The course is an elective, freestanding course for students admitted to the European Master's programme on Society, Science and Technology (ESST).

*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**

In order to obtain a pass for the course, the student shall demonstrate

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

- in-depth understanding of the theoretical connections and relationships between economic geography, innovation studies and regional development, and their implications and consequences for community planning

#### **Competence and skills**

- the ability to describe and critically analyse contemporary developments in relation to the role and importance of innovation for sustainable planning, including social, economic and environmental aspects from a spatial perspective
- the ability to communicate how different social, economic and environmental processes interact with regional development, innovation and planning
- the ability to communicate scientifically and to follow the development of

knowledge in the field

- the ability to independently search for information within the themes of the course, to analyse critically and evaluate the information and its sources, and to communicate the content of the course in an informed manner

### **Judgement and approach**

- the ability to identify and critically engage with prevailing policy approaches to sustainable development, to understand the theoretical underpinnings and to link these to the discussion of the role of innovation in societal transformation in a spatial context.

## **Course content**

The course focuses on societal transformation processes and how economic, environmental and social challenges can be addressed in a sustainable way in different contexts. Theoretical perspectives from economic geography but also from innovation and sustainability studies are linked to these challenges and put in relation to policy approaches in different societal situations. In particular, the course addresses how the conditions for responding to social transformation vary across different regional and geographical contexts.

## **Course design**

The course consists of lectures, seminars and in some cases, field trips. The lectures provide a theoretical introduction to the course topics and are followed by seminars where students are encouraged to reflect critically on theoretical approaches and to relate them to real-life events.

Participation in the guest lectures, seminars and field trips is compulsory unless there are valid reasons to the contrary. Students who have been unable to participate due to circumstances out of their control such as an accident 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**

Course assessment is based on a written take-home exam as well as compulsory seminar reports. The course includes opportunities for assessment at the first examination, a re-sit close to the first examination and a second re-sit for courses that have ended during that academic year (catch-up exam). At least two further re-examinations on the same course content are offered within a year of the course being discontinued or undergoing a major revamp. After this, further re-examination opportunities are offered but in accordance with the current course syllabus.

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, 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 adequate 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 has shown inadequate results.

The final grade is determined by the grade on the take-home exam.

At the start of the course, students are informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and the grading scale as well as how the grading scale is applied in the course.

## Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, the student must have at least 150 credits in Human Geography, or the equivalent.

Oral and written proficiency in English corresponding to English 6/B from Swedish upper secondary school is a requirement. Equivalence is applied on the basis of national guidelines.

## Further information

Credits from course SGEM23 cannot count towards a degree together with this course.

## Subcourses in SGEM27, Geographies of Innovation and Societal Transformations

Applies from V23

2301 Geographies of Innovation and Societal Transformations, 8,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A