



Faculty of Social Sciences

SMMV27, Assessment of Environmental Impact, 7.5 credits

Bedömning av miljöpåverkan, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Service Management and Service Studies on 2019-03-20 and was last revised on 2024-08-30 by the board of the Department of Service Studies (STYR 2024/2165). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2024-08-30 and is valid from the spring semester 2025.

General information

The course is included in the second semester of the Master of Science (120 credits) programme in Service Management and is the third course specific to the specialisation in Sustainable Service Management.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of study *Specialisation*

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

Learning outcomes

For a Pass on the course, the students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate a social science perspective on how scientific methods are used in environmental impact assessment, and understand the environmental impact-effect-consequence chain of events from a sustainability perspective, and
- explain the connections between environmental theories and environmental assessments of services and societal resource flows.

Competence and skills

- discuss the societal effects in the assessment of environmental impact and understand the associated methods of measurement and their advantages and shortcomings from a service perspective,
- problematise the quantification of environmental effects from a social sciences perspective on sustainability,
- use concepts such as life-cycle analysis (LCA), ecological footprint (E) and ecosystem services (EST), and understand the importance of clear and measurable projects and impact goals, and
- perform simple environmental assessments of services, resource flows or products.

Judgement and approach

- critically evaluate and discuss the assessment of environmental effects, and different quantitative methods of measurement by carrying out simple environmental assessment.

Course content

The aim of the course is to enable students to develop knowledge of the assessment of environmental effects and associated methods of measurement to understand how this can be quantified from a social sciences perspective.

The course consists of the following components and will include lectures, a literature seminar, workshops and supervision:

Part 1: The social sciences and assessment of environmental effects

Part 2: Quantifiable tools for assessing environmental effects

Part 3: Environmental assessment of the chain: environmental impact-effect-consequence

Part 4: Assessment of environmental effects in practice

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, guestlectures, study visits, seminars and supervision of group assignments.

Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, compulsory participation is required in guest lectures, study visits and 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 assessment is based on:

Active participation in seminars with individual written assignments (3.5 credits), module code 2501

Project work in groups (4 credits), module code 2502

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 completed in the past year (catch-up exam). At least two further re-examinations on the same course content are offered within a year of a major change or discontinuation of the course. 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.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: U=Fail, E=Sufficient, D=Satisfactory, C=Good, B=Very Good, A=Excellent

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 A the student must show excellent results. For the grade of Fail the student must have shown unacceptable results.

Module code 2501 is an exception to the above grading scale. The grades awarded for this module are Pass and Fail.

For the grade of Pass on the whole course, the student must have been awarded the grade Pass on module code 2501 and at least the grade E on module code 2502.

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

To be admitted to the course, the student must have fulfilled course requirements amounting to at least 15 credits within the programme.