



Faculty of Social Sciences

STVC52, Political Science: The Politics of Environment and Sustainable Development, 7.5 credits

Statsvetenskap: The Politics of Environment and Sustainable Development, 7,5 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Political Science on 2011-11-08 to be valid from 2011-11-17, spring semester 2012.

General Information

This is a course in Political Science that is offered to first cycle and exchange students at Lund University.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Political Science

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

G2F, First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, students shall have demonstrated

Knowledge and understanding

- knowledge of environmental problems and international political efforts to manage them.
- knowledge of how different theoretical perspectives in Political Science contribute to the understanding of the politics of environment and sustainable development in national and global context.

Competence and skills

- an ability to critically assess theories and perspectives covered by the course and analyze cases within the field of politics of the environment and sustainable development.
- an ability to present her/his analysis in written and oral form that corresponds to academic standards.
- responsibility for her/his learning process throughout the entire course by engaging in group tasks, seminar discussions as well as individual assignments.

Course content

This course explores the politics of the environment, including issues of sustainable development, in national and global contexts. Focus is placed on how environmental issues can be understood as political problems and what types of challenges they pose for political systems. This is examined from different theoretical perspectives in Political Science, among them political thought, policy analysis, and international relations. In the course, the ideas behind environmental concern and sustainable development will be analysed, as well as what these ideas imply for politics as well as for Political Science. Examples of such ideas are sustainable development, ecological modernisation, and intra- and intergenerational justice. Focus will also be placed on the actors involved in the politics of the environment. These include governments and governmental organizations as well as green parties and social movements. The processes involved in international and national contexts will also be discussed. Throughout the course, cross-cutting case studies will be used to illustrate theoretical debates and concepts.

Course design

The course consists of a series of seminars. In addition to attending lectures, students are expected to participate in seminar discussions, and prepare oral and written presentations on specific topics.

Assessment

Examination is based on several assignments throughout the course, in both written and oral form. In addition to the regular examinations, two extra examinations will be organised each term.

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 grades awarded are A, B, C, D, E or Fail. 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 eligible for the course the student must have the equivalent of 60 ECTS credits from studies in Political Science.

A high level of proficiency in the English language is necessary. (IELTS with a minimum of 6.0 (none of the sections under 5.0), or TOEFL with a minimum of 575p (internet based 90p) or having received a passing grade in English course B (Swedish secondary school) is required.

Subcourses in STVC52, Political Science: The Politics of Environment and Sustainable Development

Applies from V12

1101 Course Paper, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A