



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

EHG280 Economic growth and the environment: a global environmental history, 7.5 credits

Tillväxt och miljö: en global ekonomisk miljöhistoria, 7,5 högskolepoäng

First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Economy and Society on 2019-05-14 and was last revised on 2024-02-27 to be valid from 2024-09-02, autumn semester of 2024.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Department of Economy and Society

Position in the educational system

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Bachelor Programme in Economic History and Human Geography (S1SAP)

Main field of studies

Economic History

Specialization

G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

At least 15 credits in social sciences subjects.

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

a - understand the meaning of basic concepts in economic environmental history

b - explain how the primary nourishments have long-term altered the conditions for the functioning of many ecosystems

c - relate the question about global heating to technological transformations and changes in energy use

Competence and skills

d - analyse the environmental problems of today from a long-term historical perspective on the energy and material flow's development

Judgement and approach

e - critically relate to arguments in the debate about economic growth and environmental impact

The course is sustainability-focused, which means that at least one of the learning outcomes clearly shows that the course content meets at least one of the University of Gothenburg's confirmed sustainability criteria. The content also constitutes the course's main focus.

Course content

The aim of the course is to give an introduction to global economic environmental history. In the course, a number of environmental economic perspectives on the long-term interplay between man and nature are presented. The focus is to communicate a historical perspective on how expansion of economic activities through population search and economic growth, influenced the quality and the distribution of ecosystem services. The course is divided into three modules. In the first module, basic concepts about the interplay between man and nature are presented. In the second module, focus is placed on the effects on the ecosystems of population growth and basic food supply. The third module treats the effects of industrialisation and energy supply.

Form of teaching

The course is a distance course that is given digitally, and the teaching consists of lectures and seminars.

Language of instruction: Swedish and English

Assessment

The intended learning outcomes are examined through a combination of individual written assignments, oral examination and compulsory attendance in seminars. A student who cannot participate at activity with compulsory attendance is offered the opportunity to complete a complementary examination.

If a student has failed the same examined element on two occasions and wishes to

change examiner before the next examination session, such a request must be submitted to the department in writing, and it will be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

If a student has received a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg for study support for students with disabilities, the examiner may, where it is compatible with the learning outcomes of the course and provided that no unreasonable resources are required, decide to allow the student to sit an adjusted exam or alternative form of assessment.

In the event that a course has ceased or undergone major changes, students are to be guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the ordinary examination session) over a period of at least one year, but no more than two years after the course has ceased/been changed. The same applies to internships and professional placements (VFU), although this is restricted to just one additional examination session.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Excellent (A), Very good (B), Good (C), Satisfactory (D), Sufficient (E) and Fail (F).

To pass the course (A-E), passed result is required on both compulsory seminars and take-home examination.

Course evaluation

Course evaluation is carried out at the end of the course. Evaluation results and any changes in the course structure should be communicated to both the students who completed the evaluation and to the students who will start the course.

Additional information

The course may not be included in degree together with the courses EHG200, EHG201 or EHG165.