



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

EU2210 European Environment and Energy, 15 credits

Europeisk miljö- och energipolitik, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Faculty of Social Sciences on 2011-05-05 and was last revised on 2020-03-13 by Department of Political Science to be valid from 2020-03-15, autumn semester of 2020.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Department of Political Science

Position in the educational system

The course is given within the Master's Programme in European Studies (two year programme) and is a semi-elective course. The course is also an optional course for the completion of the Master's degree in Law. Students not enrolled in either of these programmes may attend this course as an independent course.

The course can be part of the following programmes: 1) Master's Programme in European Studies (S2EUS), 2) Masterprogram Political Science (S2STV) and 3) Master's Programme in International Administration and Global Governance (S2IAG)

Main field of studies

European Studies

Specialization

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

The requirement for admission to the course is a Bachelors degree with a minimum of 90 higher education credits in a social science discipline or in a humanities discipline.

Students at the Law programme are also eligible to apply to the course, after three years (180 higher education credits, equivalent of a bachelor degree). Priority will be given to applicants with 60 higher education credits in European Studies.

Proficiency in English

1. English B from Swedish Upper Secondary School, with a minimum of Passed mark
2. Alternatively, English proficiency equivalent to current minimum IELTS- or TOEFL-language test results published on www.studera.nu.
3. Alternatively, A Bachelors degree from a university where English is the only language of instructions, in accordance with the recommendations in the latest edition of International Handbook of Universities.

Learning outcomes

A student who has passed the course will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- have in-depth knowledges of the economic, judicial, and political conditions for environmental and energy policy-making in the European Union.

Competence and skills

- have the ability to analyse specific environmental issues with regard to: what role EU institutions, different member states, and NGO's/lobby groups play in the policy process; and the EU's role internationally.
- have the ability to present and argue for their own analyses of European environment- and energy policy orally and in writing;
- have the ability to formulate and argue for interesting research problems within the field of European environment and energy.
- independently produce text in accordance with good academic practice, including proper citation technique and use of references.
- communicate clearly and proficiently in English both orally and in writing.

Judgement and approach

- be able to explain and evaluate European environmental and energy policy on various specific issues.

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 course addresses and problematizes the EU's environmental and energy policy. First, the EU's legal foundation, the policy process, the commitment to economic

growth and integration of markets, and geographical and technical preconditions in Europe are analysed from a sustainability perspective. This provides the baseline for elaborations on different environmental and energy problems and future challenges in Europe, which also include analyses of the relation between the EU and member states, the role of NGO's and other lobby groups, and the EU as an international actor.

Form of teaching

The main forms of instruction are lectures and compulsory seminars that require active participation.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

Students will be evaluated based on their performance on four written assignments, both individually and in group. In the course there are course elements that require active participation in terms of preparing for the compulsory seminars and lectures and orally commenting on texts. The examination includes both writing individual assignments on a given subject, and to discuss these and fellow students' assignments at the seminar.

Assignments 1–3 are worth 3.5 credits each, while assignment 4 is worth 4.5 credits. Each assignment is evaluated with the grades “fail”, “pass” or “pass with distinction” and the grade is based on both the written paper and the seminar. In order to pass the assignment the students have to actively participate at the seminars and lectures during the theme connected with the assignment as well as get pass on the written paper.

Students can be asked to re-work graded assignments and re-submit them. If the student does not re-submit the reworked assignment on time, the student will be failed on the assignment.

A student who is not able to attend a compulsory part of the course can do an alternative assignment. The assignment will be described in the course guide.

A student who has failed an assignment twice has the right to change examiner, unless weighty arguments can be adduced. The application shall be sent to the board of the department and has to be in writing.

In cases where a course has been discontinued or major changes have been made a student should be guaranteed at least three examination occasions (including the ordinary examination occasion) during a time of at least one year from the last time the course was given.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U). In order to obtain Pass the student must fulfill all the learning outcomes which imply pass on all assignments. For a pass with distinction, the work of the student should show a very good ability to connect theoretical analyses to practical outcomes, a good, independent analytical ability and that written assignments fulfill high academic standards in terms of structure and language, which imply the grade “pass with distinction” on at least 50 % of the credits.

Course evaluation

The student will be given the opportunity to do a course evaluation. The results of and possible changes to the course will be shared with students who participated in the evaluation and students who are starting the course.