



## DEPARTMENT OF EARTH SCIENCES

### **GE5000 Urban Sustainable Development, 7.5 credits**

Urban hållbar utveckling, 7,5 högskolepoäng

*Second Cycle*

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#### **Confirmation**

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Earth Sciences on 2011-11-02 and was last revised on 2022-04-25 to be valid from 2022-08-29, autumn semester of 2022.

*Field of education:* Science 100%

*Department:* Department of Earth Sciences

*Other participating department*

Department of Economy and Society

#### **Position in the educational system**

The course includes 7.5 credits at the master's level. The course is offered as an elective course subject to availability.

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Master's Programme in Geography (N2GEO)

*Main field of studies*

Geography

*Specialization*

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

#### **Entry requirements**

Admission to the course requires a bachelor's degree of 180 credits, in the main field of geography, human geography or physical geography. Applicants with equivalent education can, after review and approval be given access to the course.

## Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

### *Knowledge and understanding*

- explain the driving forces behind urban transformation processes, its outcome on human habitats and everyday life, and land and soil resources.
- identify relevant terminology and their respective definitions.
- propose measures to achieve long-term sustainable urban development.

### *Competence and skills*

- carry out a project, by formulating one based on the course's focus problem area, collect and process data, report and analyze.

### *Judgement and approach*

- evaluate and critically review information from relevant sources from the standpoint of sustainable development.

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 examines urbanization processes from a broad geographical perspective. It applies an in-depth understanding of underlying driving forces of city growth and its consequences, focusing opportunities and challenges faced by today's, and future, urban landscape in the quest to achieve sustainable development.

The course explores how urban transformation processes affect people's habitats and everyday life, as well as land resource use. This is analyzed from different perspectives and in different geographical contexts (however, focusing on conditions similar to those in Sweden), such as: urban/urban planning, population composition and distribution, energy and food security, mobility/mobility and urban logistics, various aspects of risk management, urban landscape conservation, urban green structure, consequences of climate change in a local perspective, distribution aspects (inclusion and exclusion), and business transformation.

The effects on the urban environment, as well as instruments and measures (laws, technology, land use and behavioral changes) are regarded from social, business, and

individual perspectives.

### **Form of teaching**

The teaching consists of lectures, guest lectures, excursions, seminars, project work and supervision.

*Language of instruction:* English

### **Assessment**

For a final grade all graded sections of the course must be successfully completed.

Moment 1: Project work (Projektarbete), 5.5 credits: U/G/VG

Moment 2: Seminars, excursions (Seminarier, exkursioner), 2 credits: U/G

The project work is evaluated by the submission of a written report and presentation at a seminar. The result of the project work (written report and oral presentation) determines the final grade of the course, which is issued when all course sections have been completed and approved. For a final grade all course sections must be satisfactorily completed.

If a student who has twice received a failing grade for the same examination component wishes to change examiner ahead of the next examination session, such a request should be made to the department in writing and should be approved by the department unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6 Section 22 of the 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: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U). For a passing grade (G) for the entire course, a passing grade is required for all graded sections. To receive the grade Pass with Distinction (VG) for the final grade, the grade Pass with Distinction for the Project work section as well as at least Pass for all other sections is required.

**Course evaluation**

The students are given the opportunity to make an anonymous written evaluation of the course.

The result and any changes in the course structure will be communicated to both the students who completed the evaluation and to the students who will begin the course.