



SCHOOL OF GLOBAL STUDIES

HU1121 From Local Natural Resources to Global Consumption, 15 credits

Från lokala naturresurser till global konsumtion, 15 högskolepoäng

First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Faculty of Social Sciences on 2006-11-20 and was last revised on 2018-04-09 by Department of Global Studies to be valid from 2018-06-04, spring semester of 2018.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: School of Global Studies

Position in the educational system

This is an independent core course at first cycle level.

The course can be part of the following programmes: 1) Cultural Heritage Studies, Bachelor's Programme (H1KAS), 2) Program in Environmental Social Science (S1SMI) and 3) BA-program in Global Studies (S1GLS)

Main field of studies

Environmental Science, Human Ecology

Human Ecology

Specialization

G1N, First Cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

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Entry requirements

General entrance requirements

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- give an account of how people and societies in different periods and in different places in the world have utilised different types of natural resources at a general level;
- account for key social science, technological and scientific descriptions, explanations and perspectives in connection with local and global natural resource utilization and consumption;

Competence and skills

- in writing and orally compile, present and discuss information and knowledge concerning environmental problems linked to local and global natural resource utilization and consumption;
- identify and problematize environmental problems linked to local and global natural resource utilization and consumption from different theoretical perspectives;

Judgement and approach

- reflect on how the effects of local and global natural resource utilization and consumption are distributed globally, and consider the fairness of such practices.

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 provides a basic overview of society's natural resource utilization in a local and global perspective, including how global processes link local natural resource utilization to global consumption and what environmental and social problems this natural resource utilization causes as a result,

The course consists of four components:

Component 1: The natural preconditions of societies

Basic review of scientific and technological preconditions for human natural resources exploitation;

Component 2: The natural resources exploitation of societies from a historical and present-day perspective

Basic review of how people and societies in different periods and in different places in the world have utilised natural resources.

Component 3: Social progress and natural impact

Review of political, social, economic and cultural preconditions for and consequences of different forms of natural resources exploitation and consumption.

Component 4: Local and global environmental issues

Thematic studies of current local and / or global environmental problems, where students study the relationship between local natural resource utilization and global consumption. The environmental problems that constitute course themes can vary from semester to semester depending on relevance and access to summarized information.

Form of teaching

Teaching is conducted through lectures, seminars and group assignment.

Language of instruction: English and Swedish

Assessment

Examination of the course is arranged through:

- . three individual written assignments from three compulsory seminars;
- . active participation in group work with associated report submission, report presentation, report opposition, and submission of an individual logbook linked to group work;
- . individual take-home examination.

In the event of absence from compulsory seminars / group reporting, supplementation is required in the form of additional assignments

Should a student Fail, the student is given the opportunity to retake the test and / or repeat the course, depending on how much is missing for a passing grade in the individual's case.

The number of examination sessions in the course is for resource reasons limited to 5 occasions for each individual component.

If a student who has been failed on the same examining course component twice wishes to change examiner before the next examination session, a request of this kind shall be sent in writing to the department responsible for the course and shall be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary. (Chapter 6, Section 22, Higher Education Ordinance).

In the case where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the

student shall normally be guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the regular examination session) during a period of at least one year on the basis of the course's former structure.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).
For group work, only the grades Pass (G) or Fail (U) are given.

In order to receive a Passing grade on the course, the student must receive a Pass on all examination parts In order to receive a grade of Passed with Distinction: in order to receive a grade of passed with distinction on the course, the student must receive a Pass with Distinction result on the take-home examination and passed with distinction result in at least one of three seminar assignments.

Course evaluation

The course coordinator is responsible for systematically and regularly collecting the students' views of the course, and for making sure that the results of the evaluations in different forms are taken into consideration when developing the course. The results and possible changes to the course will be shared with the students who participated in the evaluation and the next class to take the course.

Additional information

Main language of instruction is Swedish.

The main part of the literature of the course is in English.