



DEPARTMENT OF LITERATURE, HISTORY OF IDEAS, AND RELIGION

LIR103 Imagining justice for a sustainable world: Perspectives from fiction, philosophy and religion, 7.5 credits

Föreställningar om rättvisa för en hållbar värld: perspektiv från fiktion, filosofi och religion, 7,5 högskolepoäng

First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Literature, History of Ideas, and Religion on 2023-10-18 to be valid from 2024-01-15, spring semester of 2024.

Field of education: Science 50% and Arts 50%

Department: Department of Literature, History of Ideas, and Religion

Position in the educational system

The course is given as a free-standing course.

Main field of studies

Religious Studies and Theology

History of Science and Ideas

Comparative Literature

Specialization

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

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Entry requirements

General entrance requirements.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- describe the relationship between justice and sustainability
- explain a selection of influential representations of justice and their conceptions of sustainability
- identify how disciplines like philosophy, literature and theology contribute to understanding justice

Competence and skills

- critically review a selection of influential representations of justice and their conceptions of sustainability
- analyse questions regarding justice both critically and constructively
- analyse the moral aspects of various conceptions of sustainability both critically and constructively

Judgement and approach

- evaluate a selection of influential conceptions of justice and sustainability in relation to the present ecological crisis
- reflect critically on their own understanding of justice

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 the question of justice in the light of the contemporary ecological crisis. It highlights the connection between social and environmental sustainability and questions about justice, and asks whether, and, if so, how, different conceptions of justice can contribute to fostering a sustainable world. Students are trained to analyse representations of justice in philosophy, literature and religion, to understand the strengths and weaknesses of influential contemporary conceptions, and to evaluate how contemporary theories can be altered or enriched to promote sustainability. The course focuses on the role of the imagination in reflection on justice, and considers the potential of various philosophic, literary and religious ideas to expand our capacity to imagine a sustainable world.

Form of teaching

Teaching is provided in the form of lectures and seminars. Active participation is required in the seminars, which are obligatory. The times for these seminars are specified in the instructions that students receive at least two weeks before start of the course.

Language of instruction: English

The course is given normally as a part of University of Gothenburg's International Summer School for Sustainability, where English is the standard language. If the course is given outside the Summer School, Swedish may be used.

Assessment

The course is examined through active participation in seminar discussions as well as written examination.

In case of absence from seminar discussions, students shall submit a supplementary assignment in accordance with the teacher's instructions.

For a student who has failed an examination, the possibility of a reexamination is given on no more than four occasions.

A student who has taken two exams in a course or part of a course without obtaining a pass grade is entitled to the nomination of another examiner. The student needs to contact the department for a new examiner, preferably in writing, and this 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 special educational support, where it is compatible with the learning outcomes of the course and provided that no unreasonable resources are required, the examiner may 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.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

For the grade of 'Pass', active participation in the compulsory components and successful completion of the written examination are required. Student oral and written work must show knowledge and skills specified in the course's learning outcomes in a productive and reflective way.

To pass with distinction, it is required that the student show knowledge and skills in accordance with the aims of the course in an especially productive and critically reflective way.

The grade Pass cannot be changed to Failed on the student's request.

A student who has passed an examination may not participate in a re-examination in order to receive a higher grade. The student also does not have the right to revoke a

submitted examination in order to avoid grading.

The examiner has the possibility to request that supplementary assignments be submitted for the grade Pass. The supplementary assignment should in such cases be communicated to the student in writing and be submitted within the time stipulated by the teacher.

Course evaluation

The department is responsible for carrying out course evaluations systematically and regularly and for seeing to it that they are compiled in accordance with the regulations for course evaluations at the Department of Literature, History of Ideas and Religion (see further at www.lir.gu.se/om-oss/styrdokument).

The results of evaluations and possible changes to the course shall be communicated to the students who have participated in the evaluation and the students who are starting the course.

Additional information

If the course is given as an online distance course, students are required to have access to a computer with a microphone, camera, and working internet connection.

The course cannot be included in the same degree as LIR102 Justice - ideas and ideals in fiction, philosophy and religion.