



DEPARTMENT OF MARINE SCIENCES

MAR463 European Marine Directives and Policies - an Interdisciplinary Perspective, 15 credits

EU:s marina direktiv och policy - ett interdisciplinärt perspektiv, 15 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Marine Sciences on 2020-06-17 and was last revised on 2024-01-24 to be valid from 2024-09-02, spring semester of 2025.

Field of education: Science 100%

Department: Department of Marine Sciences

Other participating departments

Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences

School of Global Studies

Department of Political Science

Department of Law

Position in the educational system

The course can be taken as a freestanding course or as an elective course in a Master's Programme.

The course can be part of the following programmes: 1) Atmosphere, Climate and Ecosystems, Master's Programme (N2ACE), 2) Master's Programme in Geography (N2GEO), 3) Marine Science, Master's Programme (N2MAV), 4) Environmental Sciences (N2MVN), 5) Master's Programme in Earth Sciences (N2GVS), 6) Ecotoxicology, Master's Programme (N2TOX), 7) Environment and Health Protection Management (N2MIH), 8) Master's Programme in Chemistry (N2KEM) and 9) Biology, Master's Programme (N2BIO)

Main field of studies

Sea and Society

Specialization

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

Main field of studies

Marine Sciences

Specialization

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

Entry requirements

A Bachelor's degree (180 credits) and English B/English 6 at upper secondary level or equivalent IELTS 6.5 where no section may be less than 5.5, or TOEFL 575 points, TWE 4.5 points.

Learning outcomes

After completion of the course the student is expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Describe the purpose and structure the major EU directives, policies and regional conventions
- Identify main knowledge requirement for the different directives
- Identify main actors and users in relation to the different directives
- Understand the EU marine directives' place and function in a wider legal context

Competence and skills

- Illustrate how reference levels and a classification of environmental states can be formulated
- Design monitoring programmes suitable for the different directives
- Analyse how results from monitoring programmes can be used to assess the state, e.g. Good environmental status or Favourable conservation status
- Reflect upon and discuss changing governance perspectives (e.g. in fisheries management under the CFP) and the roles and responsibilities of certain actor groups

Judgement and approach

- Discuss and evaluate how the directives affect different sectors of the society
- Assess how current programmes of measures match the requirements of the directives
- Discuss and evaluate how the different directives implement an ecosystem-based management and a sustainable use of marine resources

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 this course is to give an overview of the contents and requirement of EU marine environmental directives and policies, from legal, social and environmental perspectives.

Directives and policies covered include the EU Habitats Directive (HD), the Water Framework Directive (WFD), the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), the Maritime Spatial Planning Directive (MSPD), and the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP).

The Course consists of lectures, exercises and discussions, and individual and group reports.

Sub-courses

1. **Weekly exams** (*Veckoprov*), 7.5 credits
Grading scale: Pass (G) and Fail (U)
2. **Project** (*Projekt*), 7.5 credits
Grading scale: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U)

Form of teaching

The first sub-course is around six weeks long and consists of lectures given by university teachers from different disciplines and by invited representatives for marine/maritime authorities and agencies. Group discussions, exercises and short written reports of well-defined tasks are complements. The second sub-course, which is around three weeks, consists of an individual project work on a topic related to the course themes which result in an oral presentation and a written report.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The first sub-course is assessed through multiple individual written tests, assignments or presentations. The grade given is pass/fail (G/U). If a student fails a test, he/she will be given the chance to repeat the test. In addition, it's compulsory to actively attend at least 60% of the assignments during each week.

The second sub-course is assessed through a written and oral presentation of the project, and is graded pass with distinction/pass/fail (VG/G/U). The second sub-course decides the total grade for the whole course.

If a student, who has failed the same examined component twice, wishes to change examiner before the next examination, a written application shall be sent to the department responsible for the course and shall be granted unless there are special

reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

If a student has a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg regarding special educational support, the examiner (in case it is compatible with the course's objectives and if not unreasonable resources are required) can decide to give the student an alternative examination form.

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) during a period of at least one year, but maximum two years from the last time the course was given.

Grades

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

A student will be given the grade G if he/she has pass on all weekly tests and G on the final individual project work.

The grade VG for the whole course requires G on all weekly tests and VG on the final individual project work. A description of the criteria for getting G or VG on the individual project work will be made available on Canvas at the start of the course.

Regarding the application of ECTS scales, please see Vice-Chancellor's decision 2007-05-28, dnr G 8 1976/07 as well as 2011-02-28, dnr O 2009/5545.

Course evaluation

A written and oral evaluation of the course will be carried out at the end of the course. Short written (Canvas-based) evaluations will be done at the end of each week. The results of the evaluation will be communicated to the students and will function as a guide for the development of the course.

Additional information

A one-week visit to the marine research station at Tjärnö is planned during the course. Travel costs and catered food during the field visit are paid by the student.