AG2143 Sustainable Rural and Urban Development
7,5 hp

Sustainable Rural and Urban Development

Kursplan för AG2143 gäller från och med HT10

**Betygsskala:** A, B, C, D, E, FX, F

**Utbildningsnivå:** Avancerad nivå

**Huvudområde:** Samhällsbyggnad

**Lärandemål**

Deepening the students’ knowledge and exploring opportunities in contributing to the field of sustainable rural and urban development.

By the end of the course, students shall be able to: identify main concepts and approaches regarding sustainable development like justice and natural resource management; recognise various perspectives, powers and interests of different stakeholders engaged in rural and urban development, like government, private sector and civil society; recognise the importance of crosscutting issues in the development process; and, explore, describe and explain possibilities and hindrances towards sustainable urban and rural development like urban interface, migration and environmental burdens.

**Kursens huvudsakliga innehåll**

The course discusses an integrated approach of theoretical and practical knowledge on sustainable development on various levels of influence with a special focus on rural and urban areas. It starts with a review of basic concepts, ideologies, approaches and conventions as well as agencies in relation to sustainability issues from a global perspective. Sustainable development on the international level is discussed considering the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as guidance for monitoring the ‘joint’ international efforts. The importance of a widened and deeper understanding of the sustainable development problematic is highlighted through familiarisation with crosscutting issues like those of poverty, gender, culture and ecological sanitation. Along with a critical analysis of the development strategies and policies applied in developed and developing countries, highlighting their potentials as well as shortcomings. Significantly, the policies and inter-relations of donor agencies, including bilateral and multilateral ones are also studied and discussed.

The course follows with discussion on various concepts, policies and strategies related to sustainable rural and urban development on both national and local levels. The discussion shall include the rural-urban interrelations and synergies. Nature and characteristics of rural-urban linkages in addition to possibilities and hindrances towards sustainable urban and rural development, i.e. urban interface, urbanisation, urban agriculture, migration and environmental burdens, and cash income, are also examined and explored.

To deepen the understanding of the course contents: (a) two seminars are organised for focused discussion on international development policies and strategies and sustainable rural and urban development; and, (b) Team work on project paper (Change Project) to critically analyse the MDGs. It is a project for change which is introduced in this course as a central pedagogic tool to discuss both vertical and horizontal links engaged in global development strategies and how such strategies are interpreted into actions in local contexts, where the situational settings vary in line with
socio-economic, political and environmental conditions as well as availability of natural resources and financial requirements. Students are organised in teams to work on one millennium development goal, identified by the course staff. In connection with this MDG, each team identifies one development problematic in one of the team member’s home country and analyse it in relation to rural and urban development.

Kursupplägg

28h lectures, 17 exercises, 6h seminars, 8h excursions

Undervisningsspråk

Undervisningsspråk anges i kurstillfällessinformationen i kurs- och programkatalogen.

Behörighet

A Bachelor’s degree in architecture or landscape architecture, civil engineering in the built environment or equivalent, urban and regional planning or social sciences including courses corresponding to a minimum of 30 ECTS credits in the field of urban, transport or regional planning and economics, geoinformatics or environmental sciences. In addition ** documented proficiency in English B or equivalent (TOEFL, IELTS e g).

Litteratur

Students are to read the course compendium, which may include some of the following literatures. Additional literature may also be provided for further reading.


Examination

- LIT1 - Literature Seminar, 3,0 hp, betygsskala: A, B, C, D, E, FX, F
- PRO1 - Project Paper, 4,5 hp, betygsskala: A, B, C, D, E, FX, F

Krav för slutbetyg

Project Paper (PRO1; 4,5 cr) - Change Project paper (group work).

Literature Seminar (LIT1; 3 cr) - Literature Seminar papers (individual work) (30%). Performance and Interaction during the course (individual work) (10%).

Attendance, minimum 75% of the course sessions.