



AG2134 Contemporary Urban Theory, Advanced Course 7.5 credits

Nutida urban teori, avancerad kurs

This is a translation of the Swedish, legally binding, course syllabus.

If the course is discontinued, students may request to be examined during the following two academic years

Establishment

Course syllabus for AG2134 valid from Autumn 2013

Grading scale

A, B, C, D, E, FX, F

Education cycle

Second cycle

Main field of study

Built Environment

Specific prerequisites

At least 180 hp in architecture or landscape architecture, civil engineering in the built environment or equivalent, urban and regional planning, social sciences relevant to the scope of the course. Previous studies should comprise at least 30 hp in the field of urban design, urban, transport or regional planning.

Language of instruction

The language of instruction is specified in the course offering information in the course catalogue.

Intended learning outcomes

After having completed the course, the student shall have:

- Analysed and reflected upon the interplay of economic, social, political and cultural forces shaping the city and its planning in different geographical contexts
- Compared and analysed different theories of contemporary urban development
- Applied a set of theories and concepts on a specific site and analysed their implications in terms of planning and urban design.

Course contents

The course deals with urban theory in the sense of different ways of understanding cities – the forces shaping cities, the physical patterns in the urban landscape and the consequences on life and planning. There are different theories of contemporary urban development, e.g. cities being understood as generators of economic growth, as spaces of mobility, as places for cultural and public life, as spaces of environmental degradation and/or green living, as places for reproduction and everyday life, as spaces where ethnic, socio-economic and/or gender divisions manifest, as spaces driven by desire or fear, etc. These varying perspectives on urban development, and hence views on what the problems and possibilities are, give rise to different implications and tasks for planning and urban design.

Disposition

The course is organised in three sub-themes, to which there will be lectures, a set of articles/book chapters (announced later) and seminars with a group assignment. Students also have to complete one individual assignment, paper.

Course literature

To be determined later

Examination

- INL1 - Paper, 4.5 credits, grading scale: A, B, C, D, E, FX, F
- SEM2 - Seminars, 3.0 credits, grading scale: A, B, C, D, E, FX, F

Based on recommendation from KTH's coordinator for disabilities, the examiner will decide how to adapt an examination for students with documented disability.

The examiner may apply another examination format when re-examining individual students.

Other requirements for final grade

Individual paper (INL1; 4,5hp)

Seminars (SEM2; 3,0hp)

Ethical approach

- All members of a group are responsible for the group's work.
- In any assessment, every student shall honestly disclose any help received and sources used.
- In an oral assessment, every student shall be able to present and answer questions about the entire assignment and solution.