



AG2803 Ecosystem Support and Environmental Justice 7,5 hp

Ecosystem Support and Environmental Justice

Fastställande

Kursplan för AG2803 gäller från och med HT08

Betygsskala

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

Utbildningsnivå

Avancerad nivå

Huvudområden

Samhällsbyggnad

Särskild behörighet

3 years of university studies within the field of Planning, Architecture, Engineering or Social Science. AG2142 Political Economy for Environmental Planners, AG2143 Sustainable Rural and Urban Development or similar courses

Undervisningsspråk

Undervisningsspråk anges i kurstillfällesinformationen i kurs- och programkatalogen.

Lärandemål

To provide students with a basic knowledge of the ecological basis for sustaining urban and western life-styles and also on the connection between high level consumption and ecological and social sustainability on both local and global levels, applying an equity perspective on spatial planning and environmental engineering

After the course the students should:

- be familiar with the concept of environmental justice
- have gained insight of human dependence of natural systems
- have gained knowledge on relations between consumption levels and environmental impact on different scales
- be able to describe different methods for assessing ecosystem support
- understand how ecosystem support and environmental justice can be used in spatial planning

Kursinnehåll

The course will deal with ecological systems as a basis for society through generating products and services supporting human production and consumption. The relevance of ecosystem support in spatial planning, incorporating both cities as well as their context, will be emphasised. Another part of the course deals with social and environmental consequences of international trade and implications for the management of natural resources. Further, potentials for sustainable use of ecosystems and for furthering just environmental distribution will be discussed. Environmental justice will be illuminated from a local perspective, e.g. disproportionate burden of environmental problems among different social groups, as well as from a global perspective on distribution of resources. The course will cover theoretical concepts such as ecosystem support, ecosystem services, sustainability, resilience and environmental justice. The course will also briefly cover methods for assessing ecosystem support, such as ecological footprints.

Kursupplägg

The course will be based on lectures and seminars with much weight on discussions and will also include a group project and written reports.

Kurslitteratur

The course literature will consist of relevant scientific papers and will be announced on the course web no later than four weeks before the course begins.

Examination

- PRO1 - Project work, 4,0 hp, betygsskala: A, B, C, D, E, FX, F

- ÖVN1 - Ecosup Tools, 1,0 hp, betygsskala: A, B, C, D, E, FX, F
- LIT1 - Literature Assignment, 2,5 hp, betygsskala: A, B, C, D, E, FX, F

Examinator beslutar, baserat på rekommendation från KTH:s handläggare av stöd till studenter med funktionsnedsättning, om eventuell anpassad examination för studenter med dokumenterad, varaktig funktionsnedsättning.

Examinator får medge annan examinationsform vid omexamination av enskilda studenter.

När kurs inte längre ges har student möjlighet att examineras under ytterligare två läsår.

Övriga krav för slutbetyg

It is required to complete:

- a group exercise (ÖVN1; 1 credit) using analytic tools for illustrating ecosystem support
- an individual assignment (LIT1; 2,5 credits) on the course literature
- a project work (PRO1; 4 credits) on planning with ecosystem dependency and environmental justice perspectives

All assignments include writing a short report. In the reports the students should explain the meanings and limits of the methods they have used. A compulsory part of the LIT 1 and LIT 2 is to discuss own and other students papers in a seminar.

The final grade is calculated as a rounded, weighted average of the other grades, where the PRO1 has weight 4, LIT1 has weight 2,5 and the ÖVN1 weight 1.

Etiskt förhållningssätt

- Vid grupparbete har alla i gruppen ansvar för gruppens arbete.
- Vid examination ska varje student ärligt redovisa hjälp som erhållits och källor som använts.
- Vid muntlig examination ska varje student kunna redogöra för hela uppgiften och hela lösningen.