



AG2803 Ecosystem Support and Environmental Justice 7,5 hp

Ecosystem Support and Environmental Justice

Fastställande

Kursplan för AG2803 gäller från och med HT10

Betygsskala

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

Utbildningsnivå

Avancerad nivå

Huvudområden

Samhällsbyggnad

Särskild 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 economy, geoinformatics or environmental sciences. In addition ** documented proficiency in English B or equivalent (TOEFL, IELTS e g).

Furthermore, 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

The objective of the course is 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
- have gained understanding of how ecosystem support and environmental justice can be used in spatial planning

Kursinnehåll

The course deals 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 covers theoretical concepts such as ecosystem support, ecosystem services, sustainability, resilience and environmental justice. The course also briefly covers methods for assessing ecosystem support, such as ecological footprints. The course is based on lectures and seminars with much weight on discussions and also includes assignments.

Kursupplägg

The formal setting of the course consists of a series of lectures and three assignments. On top of this comes the students' own engagement and work.

The schedule defines the teacher-led parts of the course. It is presupposed that most of the project assignments are performed outside of these periods.

Kurslitteratur

Course literature will be presented at the course introduction.

Examination

- SEM1 - Seminar, 0,5 hp, betygsskala: P, F
- LIT2 - Literature Assignment, 3,0 hp, betygsskala: A, B, C, D, E, FX, F
- PRO1 - Project work, 4,0 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 enstaka studenter.

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

It is required to complete:

- a seminar (SEM1) discussing key concepts
- an individual assignment (LIT2) on the course literature
- a project work (PRO2) 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 LIT2 and PRO2 is to discuss own and other students papers in a seminar.

For LIT2 and PRO2 the grading scale is A-F where A is the highest and F means that the student did not pass the assignment. Students that are close to passing an assignment can receive the grade Fx which means that it is possible for them to pass if an extra task is done. The supplementing task must be made within six weeks from when the student received his/her result and before the next exam occasion. After that, the grade corresponds to F. For SEM1 the grading scale is pass or fail.

Övriga krav för slutbetyg

The minimum demand for passing the course is an E at Literature Assignment (LIT2; 3.0 cr) and Project Work (PRO2; 4.0 cr) and pass at Seminar (SEM1; 0.5 cr)

The final grade is calculated as a rounded, weighted average of Literature Assignment (LIT2) and Project Work (PRO2) where the PRO2 has weight 4 and LIT2 has weight 3. It is not possible to improve given grades.

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.