

Department of Physical Geography

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Case Studies of Environmental Impact Assessments Miljökonsekvensbeskrivningar 15.0 Higher Education Credits 15.0 ECTS credits

Course code:GE7071Valid from:Spring 2016Date of approval:2015-08-21

Department Department of Physical Geography

Main field: Physical Geography

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

Decision

This syllabus has been approved by the Board of the Faculty of Science at Stockholm University 2015-08-21.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Admission to the course requires knowledge equivalent to at least 90 ECTS credits in biology, biology-earth sciences, Earth sciences, geography, environmental Sciences, urban and regional planning, or equivalent. Swedish upper secondary school course English B/English 6 or equivalent.

Course structure

Examination codeNameHigher Education CreditsMOM1EIA, Theory, Regulations and Practice7.5MOM2Project7.5

Course content

- a. The course covers environmental impact assessment (EIA) and strategic environmental assessment (SEA) from Swedish as well as from international perspectives.
- b. The course comprises the following elements:
- 1. EIA, Theory, Regulations and Practice, 7.5 credits

The module covers: EIA legislation in Swedish Environmental and Planning and Building Law, EU legislation within the EIA and SAE fields; EIA as a process and method; methods to assess environmental impact, impacts on health and natural resource management; theories for handling uncertainty and risk; presentation and communication.

2. Project, 7.5 credits

Learning outcomes

After the course, students are expected to:

- present basic theory and regulatory frameworks with regard to EIA and SEA
- make a scoping EIA
- individually search and find relevant information for an EIA
- assess the environmental impacts of a project
- present an EIA in written and oral form

Education

Instruction consists of lectures, seminars, exercises, study visits and project work.

Participation in seminars, exercises, study visits and project work and any associated integrated instruction is compulsory. In the event of special circumstances, the examiner may, after consultation with the teacher concerned, grant a student exemption from the obligation to participate in certain compulsory instruction.

Instructions are in English.

Forms of examination

- a. The course is examined as follows: Knowledge assessment takes the form of
- written and oral examination
- written and oral presentations of project work.

Examination is in English.

b. Grades are assigned according to a seven-point goal-related grading scale:

A = Excellent

B = Very good

C = Good

D = Satisfactory

E = Sufficient

Fx = Fail (more work required before credit can be awarded)

F = Total fail

- c. The grading criteria will be distributed at the beginning of the course.
- d. To be awarded a pass, the minimum grade E is required and participate in all mandatory instruction.
- e. Students who fail an ordinary examination are entitled to sit additional examinations as long as the course is offered. There is no restriction on the number of examinations. Examinations also include other obligatory elements of the course. Students who have passed an examination may not resit it in order to achieve a higher grade. Students who have failed on two occasions are entitled to request the appointment of a different examiner for the next examination. Any such request must be made to the departmental board.

The course has at least two examinations for each academic year in the years in which instruction is provided. Intervening years include at least one examination.

f. Students awarded the grade Fx are given the opportunity to improve their grade to E. The examiner decides the supplementary assignments to be performed and the pass mark criteria. The supplementary assignments will take place before the next examination session.

Interim

Students may request that the examination be conducted in accordance with this course plan even after it has ceased to be valid. However, this may not take place more than three times over a two year period after course instruction has ended. Requests must be made to the departmental board. The provision also applies in the case of revisions to the course plan and the revisions of the course literature.

Limitations

The course may not be included in examinations in combination with courses Case Studies of Environmental Impact Assessments (NG3020/GE7011/GE7045), or equivalent.

Misc

The course include teaching in the field, which may entail additional cost for the student.

The course is part of Master's Programme in Environmental Management and Physical Planning but can also be read as a separate course.

Required reading

Course literature is decided by the departmental board and described thereafter in an appendix to the course plan.