

## Department of Physical Geography

### Syllabus

for course at second level

**Politisk ekologi - markanvändning och naturresurser i ett lokalt till globalt perspektiv** **15.0 Higher Education Credits**

**Political Ecology - Land Use and Natural Resources in a Local to Global Perspective** **15.0 ECTS credits**

<b>Course code:</b>	GE7075
<b>Valid from:</b>	Autumn 2024
<b>Date of approval:</b>	2023-10-26
<b>Changed:</b>	2024-02-20
<b>Department:</b>	Department of Physical Geography
<b>Subject group:</b>	Earth Science and Physical Geography
<b>Specialisation:</b>	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
<b>Main field:</b>	Geography

### Decision

Finalized by: Områdesnämnden för naturvetenskap, 2023-10-26

### Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Admission to the course requires knowledge equivalent to a Bachelor's Degree in any of the major subjects Earth Sciences, geography, biology-earth sciences, environmental sciences, human geography, urban and regional planning, economic history or international relations. Or 30 credits from the Master's Programme in Globalization, Environment and Social Change at Stockholm University. Also required is knowledge equivalent to Swedish upper secondary school course English B/English 6.

### Course structure

<b>Examination code</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Higher Education Credits</b>
DEL2	Project	5.0
DEL1	Theory and Methods	10.0

### Course content

a. This course addresses the use of land and other natural resources from local to global scale and in a political ecological perspective. The course begins with a theoretical block where the development of Political Ecology is presented, and where comparisons are made with other scientific perspectives regarding land use and natural resource management (e.g. Geographic Landscape Analysis and Resilience Theory). This is followed by case studies of local communities' use of land and water resources, and the natural geographical conditions under which these communities exist. The character, causes and effects of changes in natural resource utilization are discussed and problematized, especially in a political-ecological perspective, but also in relation to other scientific theoretical schools. Special focus is on social change and ecological dynamics, and how they interact in time and space.

Current environmental issues and their consequences are problematized and critically analyzed in relation to complexity, local contexts, historical conditions, power relations, and the ongoing process of globalization. The course also contains presentation of, and some practice in, commonly used political-ecological research methods with emphasis on interdisciplinary approaches.

b. The course consists of the following course units:

1. Theory and Methods (Teori och metod), 10 credits
2. Project (Projektarbete), 5 credits

## **Learning outcomes**

After completing the course, the student is expected to be able to:

Module 1, Theory and Methods (Teori och metod) 10 credits:

- show knowledge about natural resources, natural resource use and land use, and to be able to discuss environmental issues associated with these, in a predominantly, political-ecological perspective,
- discuss environmental prerequisites, social conditions and historical perspectives in relation to a sustainable land use and natural resource management at different scales.

Module 2, Project (Projektarbete) 5 credits:

- apply political-ecological theories and methods for the analysis of land use issues, in a local to global scale,
- plan, design and carry out an individual project.

## **Education**

Teaching consists of lectures, exercises, seminars and project work.

The course is offered in English.

## **Forms of examination**

a. The course is examined in the following manner:

Assessment of module 1 takes place through written and oral exams.

Assessment of module 2 takes place through written and oral examination of the project.

The examiner can decide on adapted or alternative examination formats for students with disabilities.

The take-home examination will not be graded in case of late submission. However, the examiner should take special circumstances into account.

Late submission of the project has consequences for the final grade of the course. These consequences are described in detail in the grading criteria of the course.

The examination will be conducted in English.

b. A passing final grade requires participation in exercises, seminars and project work. If special reasons exist, following consultation with the teacher involved, the examiner may grant the student exemption from the obligation to participate in certain compulsory instruction.

c. Grading: The course's final grade is set according to a seven-point criterion-referenced scale:

A = Excellent

B = Very good

C = Good

D = Satisfactory

E = Adequate

Fx = Failed, some additional work is required

F = Failed, much additional work is required

Grades of module 1 and module 2 will be set according to a seven-point criterion-referenced scale.

A passing final grade requires passing grades on all included parts.

The final grade of the course is determined by weighing the grades from all course modules, where each grade is weighed in relation to the scope of the course modules.

d. The course's grading criteria are handed out at the start of the course.

e. Students who receive a failing grade on a regular examination are allowed to retake the examination as long as the course is still provided. The number of examination opportunities is not limited. Other mandatory course elements are equated with examinations. A student who has received a passing grade on an examination may not retake the examination to attain a higher grade. A student who has failed the same examination twice is entitled to have another examiner appointed, unless there are special reasons to the contrary. Such requests should be made to the department board. The course includes at least three examination opportunities (for each course module) per academic year the course is offered. For the academic years that the course is not offered, at least one examination opportunity is offered.

f. Students awarded the grade Fx are given the opportunity to improve their grade to E. The examiner decides on the supplementary assignments to be performed and the pass mark criteria. The supplementary assignments will take place before the next examination opportunity. Upon a passing supplementation of deficiencies in understanding – minor misunderstandings, minor inaccuracies or too limited reasoning in some parts – the grade E is used. Upon a passing supplementation of basic formality errors, the grades A-E are used.

**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 the course was discontinued. Requests must be made to the departmental board. The provision also applies in the case of revisions of the course syllabus and revisions of the required reading.

**Limitations**

This course may not be included in a degree together with the course Political ecology - Land Use and Natural Resources in a Local to Global Perspective (GE7039) or with equivalent courses.

**Misc**

This course is offered as a separate course.

This course may include field studies, which entails costs to the student.

This course is offered in collaboration with the Department of Human Geography.