

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Environment, Lifestyles and Individuals
Miljö, livsmönster och individ

**7.5 Higher Education
Credits**
7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	SV8001
Valid from:	Autumn 2016
Date of approval:	2016-02-09
Department	Department of Political Science
Main field:	Political Science
Specialisation:	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

The syllabus has been approved by the Head of the Department of Political Science, Stockholm University, 2016-02-09.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Admitted to International Master's Programme in Environmental Social Science.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
8001	Environment, lifestyles, and individuals	7.5

Course content

Individuals' actions and lifestyles are increasingly stressed in discussions on environmental issues and impact. In their different roles, individuals are assigned responsibility to participate in social processes aimed at finding solutions for complex environmental issues. The course offers deepened insight into current research on the role of individuals and consumers in solving environmental and natural resource problems. Environmental behavior in terms of collective actions - as well as the conditions and obstacles for actors to act rationally as a collective - are some of the topics discussed. The course deals with current research on learning, attitudes, actions and consumption. It highlights: the role of the individual in environmental politics through research on learning and knowledge; the implications or presuppositions for environmentally friendly actions, and; decision-making over environmental resources. As such it brings up research on attitudes, values, resources and motivations for environmentally friendly actions. An important focus is how the knowledge of consumers on sustainable and political consumption as well as the attitudes and values of citizens affect (and are a precondition for) political instruments.

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of the course, the students are expected to be able to:

1. Knowledge and Understanding
 - Identify and explain the different ways in which individuals impact environmental issues.
 - Describe main theories on the relation between knowledge, resources, attitudes and individual and collective environmental actions.
2. Skills and Abilities

- Analyze central aspects of research to study the role of the individual in environmental issues.

3. Evaluation and Approach

- Critically problematize central theories on the role of the individual and actions regarding resource and environmental issues.

Education

The teaching is conducted in the form of lectures and seminars. The course participants are expected to actively take part in seminar discussions and to prepare assignments for some seminar occasions. Information on how to supplement absence will be provided at the beginning of the course.

Forms of examination

Seminars are compulsory. Examination is done in the form of completion of seminar assignments and a course paper.

A seven steps grading scale is used for grading. A, B, C, D and E are degrees of a passed grade. F and Fx are degrees of a failed grade. Grading criteria will be provided at the beginning of the course. It is possible for a student to supplement an examination if the obtained grade is Fx and information about this possibility is included in the provided course information. Upon being informed of the need for supplement by the examiner, the supplementary task must be submitted within five working days. If the examination supplement is accepted and has the character of supplementing a lack of understanding, minor misunderstanding, minor errors or too limited discussions for some part, the grade E will be applied. If the supplementary task is accepted and has the character of simple formality corrections, the grades A-E will be applied.

Students who have failed the course twice have the right to request another examiner. This request should be addressed to the department unit that has appointed the examiner. A student that has passed an exam may not take part in re-examination in order to obtain a higher grade.

Interim

When this course is no longer offered or when its content has been significantly modified, the student has the right to be examined according to this syllabus once each semester during a period of three semesters.

Required reading

See <http://www.statsvet.su.se/english/> two months before course start, at the latest.